

Germans take up hooligan mantle

FROM JOHN GOODBODY
IN STOCKHOLM

AS THE last England soccer followers began leaving Sweden yesterday, German fans continued the hooliganism that has marred the European Championship by rampaging through Gothenburg before their country's game against Holland last night.

Up to 200 of the estimated 15,000 German supporters attacked Dutch fans by throwing fireworks and bottles, and smashed car and shop windows. They pelted riot police with stones.

Police in Gothenburg said that five Swedes had been injured in the fighting and that buses and trams had been taken off the streets to prevent their windows being broken. Police adopted the same strategy as against the England fans by dividing the mob into smaller groups and moving in to arrest suspected ringleaders.

Four years ago, at the last European championship, the Germans sometimes began the fighting that led to nearly 800 people being arrested, including 394 English. At the 1990 World Cup, the Germans committed perhaps the most savage assaults of the competition during one outbreak in Milan and also fought the English before and after their semi-final in Turin.

After the fighting here on Wednesday night, which led to 32 English and 28 Swedes being arrested, police went to a campsite early yesterday holding about 300 supporters and individually screening them all before they left the city. They were compared with photographs and video pictures taken of the disturbances. Five more English were arrested.

Gosta Welander, deputy police commissioner of Stockholm, said that his officers were "not used to dealing with people like these English hooligans. Although my officers have been training for several months, it was a shock to meet them face to face."

"The Scottish have behaved extremely well and are very happy. It is strange that in one island, two groups of people can behave so differently."

However, Bo Nilsson, in charge of the officers in the street fighting in Stockholm, said: "The hooliganism was no worse than what occurs routinely in Stockholm, with youths walking through the city centre smashing windows and overturning concrete flower pots. The damage was no more than for a normal Friday or Saturday night."

Stuart Jones, page 31



Meeting his match: a handcuffed England fan is held by Swedish riot police in Stockholm after the fighting on Wednesday night

Bottomley endorses a new status for alternative medicine

BY ALISON ROBERTS

ALTERNATIVE medicine took a step closer to respectability yesterday and may soon be regularly offered alongside orthodox treatments.

A new umbrella organisation, endorsed by Virginia Bottomley, the health secretary, and cautiously welcomed by the British Medical Association, was launched at the House of Commons with plans to register and accredit its 20,000 therapist members.

The new British Complementary Medicine Association (BCMA) wants to see alternative therapies integrated into conventional health care provision so that patients will be offered a choice between the two within one practice. Since April, GPs have been able to refer patients to alternative therapists for treatment on the NHS, provided that doctors remain clinically accountable. Family Health Services Authorities have agreed to reimburse 60 per cent of the therapists' fees, and fund health promotion clinics.

The BCMA sees this as an opportunity to build on public interest. It represents 40 branches of complementary medicine, from osteopathy and chiropractic to crystal healing, reflexology and hypnotherapy. Lord Ennals, the association's president, said each therapy was being encouraged to agree standards of education, training and practice.

A code of conduct for practitioners, drawn up by the organisation and backed by a disciplinary procedure, covers advertising, medical ethics and patient-doctor relations. It says that alternative therapists must not countermand prescriptions given by a doctor, nor are they qualified to give diagnoses.

Lord Ennals said: "There is now all-party support for the government's agreement to enable GPs to employ therapists who can offer NHS treatment. What we are talking about is not confrontation between the orthodox and alternative medicine practitioners; what we are talking about is co-operation."

Arthur Kennedy, president of the BMA, accepted the aims of the new organisation, but said GPs should remain firmly in charge of diagnosis. "I think a register is important as a means of excluding charlatans and quacks. It is very important to have people who have been generally trained first before practising these various disciplines."

The plans will cover only those who want to be registered and there is still no statutory regulation of alternative therapists. Professor James Payne, deputy chairman of the BMA's board of education and science, who led an inquiry into complementary medicine in Britain, remains sceptical.

He said: "I think they are being extremely optimistic if they think that many GPs are going to rush out and call on their local therapists. I think you have to be cautious about accepting this as a move forward. I am not convinced that it is a major advance." Professor Payne said that some branches of alternative medicine, in particular osteopathy, had organised training courses and colleges. Others, such as hypnotherapy, were still unregulated and patients should use practitioners with caution.

Alternative therapies become more popular every year. Last year an estimated 70,000 patients visited complementary medicine practitioners every week, 78 per cent for musculoskeletal disorders. One in three of the patients went to alternative therapists without seeing a medical doctor first.

Susan Horswood-Lee is a GP who makes full use of a list of therapists practising in west London. She invited each practitioner to see her before referring patients. About ten patients a week are sent to aromatherapists, masseurs, osteopaths and nutritional counsellors. "Patients would always much rather have natural therapies than drugs," she said.

Health, L&T section, page 4

Moves to lift GPs' 24-hour burden

BY JEREMY LAURANCE,
HEALTH SERVICE
CORRESPONDENT

HEALTH department ministers are considering offering concessions to family doctors angry about the burden of providing 24-hour cover for their patients. Virginia Bottomley, the health secretary, is understood to be "not unsympathetic" to their plight while remaining opposed to radical change.

The concessions could include an easing of the restrictions on the use of deputising services for night calls, which would reverse the policy of the last ten years. Other possibilities include a survey of night calls to determine the extent of the burden and a campaign to discourage patients from making unnecessary demands at night.

GPs are expected to vote to opt out of providing round the clock cover at their annual conference next week. BMA leaders want responsibility for cover to be given to Family Health Service Authorities. However, such a move, as well as being unwelcome to the government, carries risks for the GPs whose status as self-employed independent contractors depends on their nominally providing a 24-hour service.

Requiring them to retain responsibility while easing the amount of out-of-hours work could provide a compromise, ministers believe. But this would be a change in the prevailing orthodoxy that patients are better looked after by their own doctor or one who knows them.

Leading article, page 15



Bottomley: sympathy with doctors' plight

Reynolds confident Irish will vote yes

BY EDWARD GORMAN
IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

THE people of Ireland went to the polls yesterday to deliver a verdict on European union which could be instrumental in either resurrecting or killing off the Maastricht process after the defeat of the treaty in Denmark.

Albert Reynolds, the prime minister, who held talks with Anibal Cavaco Silva, the Portuguese prime minister, over lunch at government buildings in Dublin, said he was not expecting a victory for the no campaign.

"We are quite confident that the Irish people, with their innate commonsense, will have weighed up the pros and cons... and will see clearly that the balance of advantage lies with a yes vote," he said.

As expected, the turnout was low, particularly in the rural west, and was likely to be no more than 55 per cent. In the absence of exit polls, and with counting on a constituency basis not beginning until this morning, the first reliable indication of the result will not come before lunchtime today, with the final figures expected some time between 5pm and 7pm.

Recent opinion polls have shown a comfortable lead for the yes campaign. The leaders of the main opposition parties, which have come together on a joint platform with the government for the referendum, also predicted the treaty would be endorsed. They made last-minute attempts to win over the estimated 23 per cent of the 2½ million voters still undecided on the eve of polling, emphasising that fears over abortion should not be confused with the substantive political and economic issues at the heart of the treaty.

John Bruton, the leader of Fine Gael, said that a no vote would risk Ireland becoming isolated in Europe and again dependent on the British economy.

The opponents also kept up the pressure. Proinsias de Rossa, leader of Democratic Left, said the slide in the yes vote over recent weeks had not been halted and the no campaign would carry the day by a margin of 51 to 49.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Laura Davies has second operation

Laura Davies, the four-year-old from Eccles, Greater Manchester, who had a liver and bowel transplant in the United States eight days ago, underwent a second exploratory operation at the Children's Hospital in Pittsburgh yesterday (Ben MacIntyre reports from New York).

The hospital said that doctors had detected high levels of bilirubin, a waste product, in her bloodstream, an early indication of a liver malfunction. Doctors became concerned when Laura's skin began to turn yellow and she complained of nausea but they said the need for another operation was "a minor setback".

□ The Princess of Wales has given a "modest" personal contribution to the Laura Davies Appeal which is paying for the double transplant. It was disclosed yesterday. The donation was promised in a letter received by Laura's parents on May 29, the day before they left for Pittsburgh. Katie Doyle, North Western Regional Health Authority spokeswoman, said the princess's secretary Patrick Jephson wrote to say that Laura was in her thoughts.

Fire at nuclear plant

A fire broke out at the Hunterston B nuclear power station on the Ayrshire coast while maintenance work was being carried out on one of the reactor boilers yesterday. Scottish Nuclear said that nobody was injured and the fire was put out by its fire fighting staff. The fire started just after 6am when sparks from cutting equipment apparently ignited. Everyone was evacuated from the area and the pressure vessel containing the boiler was closed. The company said that the unit was not operating, having been shut down 11 weeks ago for routine maintenance. No nuclear material was involved and there was no offsite release of airborne radioactivity. Scottish CND said that although the reactor was shut down, it was believed that there was fuel inside and that the fire was 25ft from the core.

11 hurt in train crash

Eleven people were slightly hurt yesterday when a diesel locomotive reversed into the front of a passenger train. The accident happened behind Stepping Hill maternity hospital at Stockport, Cheshire. The injured, who were on the Manchester to Grimsby train, were released from Stockport infirmary after treatment for cuts and bruises. A British Rail spokesman said quick thinking by the two drivers helped avert a possible tragedy. The locomotive was travelling "at slow speed" towards the passenger train when the train driver saw it approaching. "He stopped the train and went into the carriages and ushered the passengers to the rear. The loco driver jumped clear just before the impact."

Sellafield water worry

Sellafield might not be a suitable site for the repository of nuclear waste because it has an upward flow of ground water which might bring water contaminated by the nuclear waste to the surface, says a report for Cumbria County Council by consultants from Environmental Resources. "The present limited data and the lack of inter-borehole testing is a major deficiency in testing the suitability of the site," the report says. The leaders of the three political parties on the council issued a statement yesterday saying that the report reinforced the council's concerns and emphasised the need for delay until all the facts were known. The waste authority Nirex welcomed the report, which it said confirmed its own position that there was a need for further research into the hydrogeology of the area.

Island for sale at £½m

An island which is home to one woman, 80,000 rabbits and a colony of grey seals is for sale - at £550,000. The 625-acre Ramsey Island, off the Welsh coast, is part of Pembrokeshire National Park and is owned by a family trust. Sue Ward, the island manager, said: "It is great taking visitors around but the best time is when they have gone home and it is just me."

English chess disaster

The World Chess Olympics in the Philippines is rapidly turning into a disaster for England's new team captain, Michael Stean (Raymond Keene writes). Whatever team he fields in Manila seems destined for calamity. After losing to Iceland by 3-1 in round nine, England went on to a 2-2 draw with little-favoured Italy, a team with only one grand master in its line up. Nigel Short capped events by losing to Garcia Palermo while the British champion Julian Hodgson lost his game to Braga. England, which was seeded second and has a team of powerful grand masters, now has 22½ points, is placed around 20th in the competition, and is heading for its worst performance in the Chess Olympics since 1970. Russia leads with 29½ points plus one adjourned game. Four rounds are still to be played.

Salmonella outbreak

Nineteen cases of salmonella poisoning were confirmed yesterday in an outbreak traced to egg sandwiches bought in a health food store. Thirty-nine people are so far known to have fallen ill but 20 cases have yet to be confirmed as salmonella poisoning. The outbreak in Haverfordwest, Dyfed has been traced to a shop in the Welsh town.

Murder case remands

Two men accused of murdering Special Constable Glenn Goodman were remanded in custody yesterday for four weeks. Paul Patrick Magee, 42, and Michael O'Brien, 28, who were arrested in Pontefract, West Yorkshire, a week ago, were remanded by Old Thames magistrates, east London, until July 16. The pair are also charged with the attempted murder of PC Alexander Kelly, 32, at Headley Bar, North Yorkshire. Reporting restrictions were not lifted.

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Stonehenge's ley lines lose their magic

SOME new age travellers and hippies said yesterday that they will boycott the annual trek to Stonehenge for the summer solstice because they are tired of being blamed for causing violence and destruction.

"It is just not worth the hassle. We don't want our homes busted up," said Vic 23, who is currently living in a layby at Burrow Bridge, near Taunton, Somerset. Last week she and her son Ben, 4, left a festival site in Yorkshire in a convoy of 30 vehicles. "One by one we have split up. I guess the day of the big convoy is past. We prefer to avoid travelling in large groups because this means we attract less attention from police."

She has joined people in three other vehicles and is looking for work as a fruit picker as well as hoping to attend the festival at Pilton, Somerset, which starts next week.

Other travellers on the roads said

Ray Clancy finds that, after the troubles of recent years, Stonehenge is becoming less of a magnet for travellers

that they, too, were avoiding Stonehenge. "The trouble is the ravers - local town people who head for festival sites just to cause trouble," said Bod 24, who is travelling with six others through Somerset down towards Lyme Regis in Dorset for a few days by the seaside. "We are boycotting Stonehenge this year. It is no fun, so there is no point in going there just to get beaten up."

Asked if he meant that the police had succeeded in their annual attempt to keep people away from the ancient monument, he replied: "No, because there will still be the ravers. They will still try to cause trouble. We keep away because we respect the countryside. We don't want to muck it up."

His girl friend Michelle, 22, said that she gets angry when travellers

are described as dirty no-gooders. Yesterday she carefully washed her face and hands before setting off for the nearest unemployment benefit office to collect her weekly dole payment.

Her group of travellers like to think that they could be self-sufficient. They have five hens which lay eggs every day and run around in a makeshift pen on the grass. Their menagerie also includes two chickens "rescued" from a battery farm and several dogs, all friendly, who lie around in the shade under the trees.

Michelle showed off her spotless caravan. Her bed had a freshly laundered blue sheet and a stylish fur rug for extra warmth in the winter. "We do care about the environment. We don't leave rubbish behind and we try to be kind to other road users,"

she said. The group has a saw and an axe for chopping wood, tools for fixing their vehicles, and a large pot full of lettuce seedlings.

The police agree that the ravers are more likely to cause trouble than the travellers. "Ravers are well equipped with mobile telephones, fax machines and complicated communications systems. Organisers can direct vast numbers of people quickly to one site at the last minute. That is what we are against," a Wiltshire police spokesman said.

Last night the only people anywhere near Stonehenge were security men and police officers enforcing the exclusion zone that lasts until Sunday. "The magic has gone from Stonehenge. Nobody really wants to go there any more," said Chris 24, summing up the feelings of many travellers. Nobody really wants to go there any more," said Robert Cranston writes on the life of a group of new age travellers.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Laura Davies has had operation

A four-year-old from Eccles, Greater Manchester, who underwent a liver transplant at the Children's Hospital in Manchester, has been discharged from hospital. The child, who was born with a liver condition, had been in hospital since she was born. The operation was a success and the child is now home with her family.

nuclear plant

The Hunterdon nuclear power station, which is owned by the British Nuclear Fuels (BNFL) group, has been closed for a period of time. The closure was due to a problem with one of the reactors. The plant is located in Hunterdon, New Jersey.

t in train crash

A passenger train carrying about 100 people was involved in a collision with a freight train in the state of New Jersey. The collision occurred near the town of Hammonton. The passenger train was carrying a number of school children. The freight train was carrying a large number of cars.

eld water worry

A report from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has raised concerns about the quality of drinking water in some areas. The report found that there were high levels of lead in the water supply in some cities. The EPA is working to identify the source of the lead and to take steps to reduce it.

1 for sale at £11

A small island in the Channel Islands, known as Sark, is for sale for £11 million. The island is about 100 acres in size and has a population of about 100 people. It is a beautiful island with a rich history and a unique culture.

sh chess disaster

A chess match between two world-class players ended in a disaster for one of the players. The player, who was known for his aggressive style, made a series of blunders that led to his defeat. The match was watched by a large audience and was a major event in the chess world.

onella outbreak

An outbreak of salmonella poisoning has been reported in the United Kingdom. The outbreak is believed to be linked to the consumption of raw eggs. The Health Department is advising people to avoid eating raw eggs until the outbreak is over.

der case reman

A case of a rare disease has been reported in the United Kingdom. The disease is known as a rare form of cancer. The patient is a young man who has been diagnosed with the disease. The doctors are working to find a cure for the disease.

their magic

A group of people have been using magic to help people with disabilities. The group has been successful in helping many people and has gained a reputation for its work. The group is now looking for more people to help.

Divorce risk 'greater for trial marriage couples'

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

COUPLES who live together before marriage are more likely to face divorce and marital breakdown than those who wait until after their wedding day, according to a survey published yesterday.

The research is likely to be seized upon by those opposed to the idea that living together in a "trial marriage" is a good foundation for wedded bliss, although marriage guidance and family studies specialists cautioned against reading too much into the findings.

Men and women who lived together before their wedding were about 40 per cent more likely to have divorced within 15 years of marriage than those who had not, according to the research. The survey showed that, of couples who married for the first time in the early 1980s, those who lived together beforehand were 50 per cent more likely to have divorced within five years and 60 per cent more likely to have divorced after eight years.

Couples who married between 1970-5 after living together were 30 per cent more likely to divorce after five years than those who had not cohabited. This figure, according to a study based on statistics from the 1989 General Household Survey, increased to 40 per cent for couples who lived together before marrying between 1975-9, and to 50 per cent

for those marrying between 1980-4.

John Haskay, author of the report, which is published in *Population Trends*, said: "If marital breakdown is taken as either divorce or separation, the marriages of those who pre-maritally cohabited were 60 per cent more likely to end in breakdown."

The report said that more than 50 per cent of those marrying in the late 1980s had lived together before their wedding day, a trend that has grown quickly since the 1960s, when cohabiting was criticised by some as "living in sin".

Mr Haskay cautions against establishing a causal link between living together and divorce, but suggests that there might be factors common to both. Couples marrying in a civil ceremony are more likely to have lived together than those who marry with a religious ceremony.

Marital breakdown rates are higher among those marrying in register offices. He added that some specialists in marriage and family life believed that pre-marital cohabitation reflected a weaker commitment to marriage and that cohabitation attracted people who were more unconventional in their beliefs and lifestyles.

Zelda West-Meads, of Relate, said that there might be religious and psychological reasons for the findings. Those with a religious influence might not live together and were prepared to stick with a marriage when it ran into difficulties.

Others chose to live together because they feared making an ultimate commitment and, when they married, felt trapped. "Because they have difficulty making a commitment and have difficulty with the intimacy of marriage, panic sets in and this can lead to breakdown."

Women in the United Kingdom have more children than those in any EC country apart from Ireland, according to a further report in *Population Trends*. They had 1.84 children in 1990, compared with 2.14 in Ireland and 1.8 in France. Outside the EC, women in Sweden have 2.14 children, and in the former Soviet Union 2.26.

The survey of fertility trends in Europe showed that the UK's fertility rate for those aged 15-19 was higher than for any other Western European country. In 1990, the rate for the under-20s was 32 births per 1,000, compared with under 10 per 1,000 in France, Denmark, Switzerland and Holland. Only Portugal and Greece had rates of more than 20.

The UK rate was slightly higher in 1990 than in 1980. In every other EC country it had declined, in some cases by as much as a third.

Population Trends (OPCS: Stationery Office, £7.75)



Flutes for two: James Galway, master flautist, giving practical advice yesterday to a novice player, Natalie Nogueira, nine, of Newland House School, Twickenham, west London, at the launch of the first London International Flute Convention

Zoo group fights closure

By MICHAEL HORNSEY

A LAST-ditch move to save London Zoo from closure was launched yesterday by a consortium of animal keepers, scientists and fellows of the Zoological Society of London.

The London Zoo Survival Group, which aims to preserve the zoo as a centre for breeding endangered animals and a public spectacle, was formed after a meeting of the 240 staff there voted unanimously to fight closure.

The group wants to rename the zoo the National Centre for animal conservation. It called for the resignation of the ruling council and management responsible for the decision to close the zoo in the face of plunging attendances and an annual deficit running at £2 million.

Doug Richardson, the zoo's collections manager and chairman of the group, said: "London Zoo is threatened with closure only because of staggering management incompetence throughout the 1980s. This culminated in the crucial winter of 1991 and spring of 1992 when the zoo failed to produce a publicity campaign even to inform the people of London that the zoo was still open. Largely because of this attendance has fallen this year by almost 30 per cent, far more than can be accounted for by the recession."

The group plans to open negotiations with the government to present a proposal for the saving of the zoo. The government will be asked primarily for breathing space in which to put a new management in place.

The group wants to know what has happened to an estimated £5 million left over from a one-off final endowment of £10 million paid to the society by the government in 1988 and the outcome of promises of up to £10 million in commercial sponsorship announced by the society earlier this year.

De Gaulle BBC scripts fetch £38,686

By SARAH JANE CHECKLAND, SALEROOM CORRESPONDENT

DRAFTS for the BBC broadcasts that launched the exiled Charles de Gaulle as the champion of the Free French during the second world war have sold for £38,686 at Sotheby's New York with simultaneous broadcast bidding in London.

Owned by a descendant of de Gaulle's wartime secretary, the drafts were bought by the Institut Charles de Gaulle

in France at double their pre-sale estimate. Written in a rushed hand, with many scribbled corrections, the speeches are a unique record of the moment when the obscure general took advantage of the British war cabinet's authorization for the Free French to broadcast five minutes twice daily to their homeland.

"La France a choisi contre l'ennemi et contre ses collaborateurs... La France a choisi de triompher un jour..." (France has chosen the path against the

enemy... France will triumph one day), reads a speech from December 1940. That for New Year's Day 1941 closes with the words: "The first of January 1941: France hopes and waits for nothing but victory".

Having weighed his words carefully, as shown by these drafts, de Gaulle would pass them to his secretary to type. He would then read the clean typescript when broadcasting.

Vicar sells vase, page 16

INLA says it planted fire bombs in Leeds

By DAVID DAVIS

THE Irish National Liberation Army admitted yesterday planting 12 fire bombs in Leeds city centre, two of which went off early yesterday morning, wrecking one shop and causing slight damage in another.

The group claimed responsibility in a telephone call to the BBC. Police said that they had accounted for nine of the devices planted by the INLA. They were still looking for another three and fear that shoppers may have them in the goods they bought at the shops yesterday.

The Shop and Shop hardware centre suffered damage estimated at £150,000 after at least one of the devices went off just after midnight. Another fire bomb at Waterstone's Booksellers caused slight damage soon after, though a police officer prevented further damage after altering the fire brigade when he spotted smoke in the shop. Hours before the fires broke out police were called to Marks and Spencer in the city centre after staff found two fire bombs wedged down the side of a settee in the furniture department. They were timed to go off after midnight.

Chief Supt David Clarkson said he hoped the terrorists behind the firebombs had been captured on video at the stores. Officers from West Yorkshire joined with Scotland Yard's terrorist squad in their investigations.

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Fraud office power of investigation strengthened

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

IN THE wake of the House of Lords ruling last week, Kevin and Ian Maxwell are unlikely to be able to rely on the defendant's traditional right to silence when questioned by the Serious Fraud Office in connection with charges brought yesterday.

Over the centuries, the principle has become rooted in law that defendants should not be placed at risk of incriminating themselves and should not therefore have to answer any questions, on the ground that the material could then be used against him.

Last week, however, the law lords unanimously allowed an appeal by the Serious Fraud Office, reaffirming the wide investigative powers of the office to compel people to answer questions or face the sanction of a fine or imprisonment.

The law lords' ruling overturned a High Court judgment in November that once someone had been charged with an offence he or she was entitled to the traditional right of silence and need not comply with the fraud office's extensive questioning powers under section 2 of the Criminal Justice Act 1987.

The case was originally brought by a company director, Wallace Smith, chairman and managing director of Wallace Smith Trust Company, who maintained that once charged he was not obliged to answer the office's questions.

In the original action in the High Court, Lord Justice Nolan said that there was nothing in the 1987 act to suggest that the Serious Fraud Office could exercise its powers to investigate suspected serious or complex fraud without a caution where a person had

RIGHT OF SILENCE

already been charged. One lawyer in last week's case indicated that in his view it was still open to a defendant to refuse to answer questions. The solicitor to Wallace Smith, Charles Suckley of Garstangs, said that in his view the ruling had indicated that the Serious Fraud Office could ask questions but had not clarified the circumstances in which a defendant might refuse to answer.

Most lawyers view the ruling glumly, regarding it as further a dent in the already eroded right to silence. Less attention has been paid to the powers of the Department of Trade and Industry investigators, who are looking into some of the associated aspects of the Maxwell pension funds enquiry and whose powers are even more extensive.

Diane Webber, a solicitor with the West End firm Woolf Seddon, who specialises in white-collar crime, said: "Little appears to be made of the fact that the powers of the DTI pose a far more serious threat to potential defendants than the powers of the SFO."

The department, she adds, also uses its powers of investigation far more frequently than does the Serious Fraud Office, which only looks into cases where the value of the fraud is more than £5 million.

In particular, she points out, answers to questions put by the department may be used as evidence at a subsequent trial, but answers to questions put by the fraud office may only be used if they are inconsistent with answers to questions given in court.

"One wonders if the next step won't be to chip away at this, and remove the inconsistency so that the SFO has the same powers as the DTI in this respect," she said.

In the meantime, the right to silence is being examined by the Royal Commission on Criminal Justice. The commission is expected to recommend that the defence must disclose its case by a certain point before trial, although the right to remain silent in the police station or in the dock will be preserved.

The Serious Fraud Office was established in 1987 to investigate and prosecute cases of serious and complex fraud. Originally, only those cases involving more than £2 million were investigated.



Lord Justice Nolan
High Court ruling

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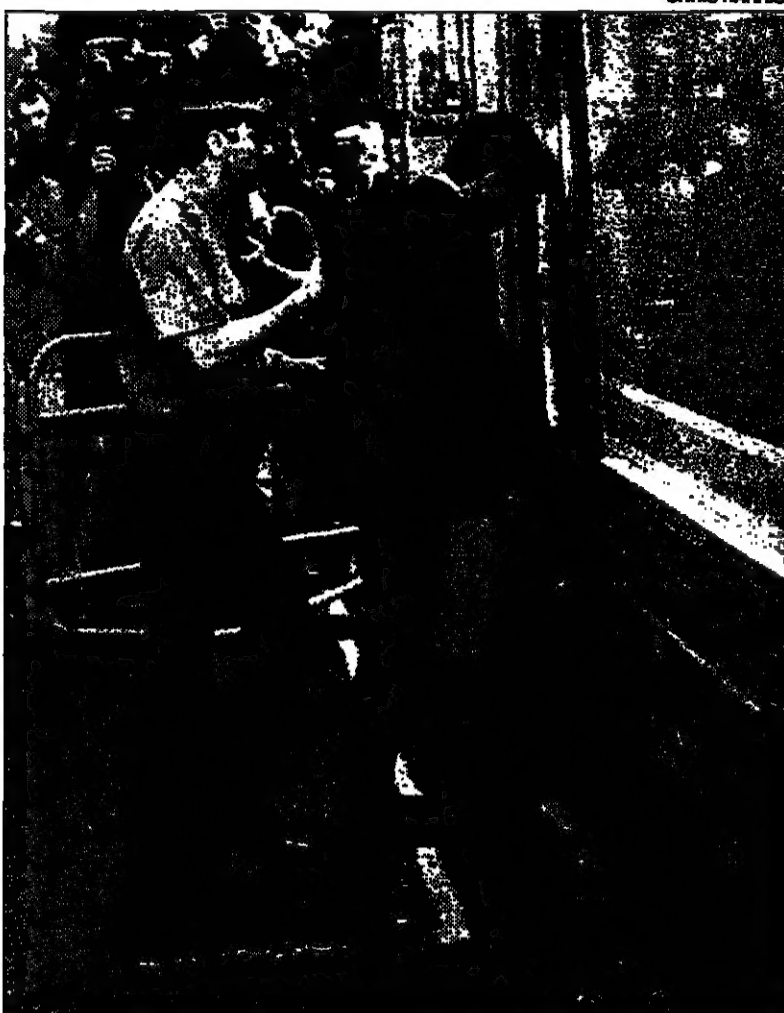
This Sunday as every good son and daughter needs no reminding is Father's Day. But what you may need reminding of is the wonderful array of gifts that Harrods can offer you. In our Wine Department on the Ground Floor, for instance, we have over 100 different whiskies, including Glenfiddich 12 year old malt, £17.25. If, however, you'd like to ensure he turns out as well as you have, head for Men's Grooming on the Ground Floor, where we have the latest ranges from amongst others, Polo, Cartier and Aramis. To improve your Father's par, our Golf Shop in our Sports and Leisure Department on the Fifth Floor even has an Automatic putting machine, £14 and the world's first computerised motor caddy, £595. So if you really want to make your Father's day this Sunday, visit Harrods. And show him that apart from inheriting his eyes, nose and mouth, you also inherited his impeccable good taste.

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CHRIS HARRIS



ALISTAIR GRANT

Eye of the storm: Kevin Maxwell braves the media crush to make a statement after leaving City of London magistrates' court yesterday (top). Earlier, his brother Ian (left) and Larry Trachtenberg leave Snow Hill police station and are put in a police van for the drive to court

Rudderless Mirror steams on regardless

AFTER lunch one afternoon, I returned to find Robert Maxwell sitting in my office. "I am editor of the *Daily Mirror* now," he beamed, winking at a City acolyte he had in tow. "There's nothing to it."

Since Maxwell's death on November 5, one has been entitled to ask what there is to being chairman of Mirror Group Newspapers. The *Daily Mirror* and its Sunday sisters, the *Sunday Mirror* and *The People*, have continued to be published without any discernible hitch and in spite of huge upheavals on the management floors.

Ian Maxwell assumed the chairman's role for a month until voted off the board. Ernie Burrington took over and now has been forced to step down. The newspapers are

ownerless, with the administrator and the banks controlling their fate. Yet the journalists work on as normal, the advertising staff continue to bring in revenue and the group is according to all reports, trading profitably.

To outsiders, this might seem extraordinary, given the emphasis Maxwell laid on his central role as "the publisher". To insiders, who traditionally view owners and managers as an expensive appendage, it is simply business as usual. In truth, although Maxwell falsely presented himself as the saviour of Mirror Group, the institution is greater than its owner.

The *Daily Mirror* — "my flagship" as Maxwell referred to it — has survived a chequered history. Founded in 1903 by Lord Northcliffe

The *Mirror* is surviving happily without its proud "saviour", writes its former editor Roy Greenslade

as a paper for "ladies of breeding", it soon foundered for want of enough genteel women readers. Relunched a year later as a picture paper, circulation took off and, by the time the paper passed to Northcliffe's brother, Lord Rothermere, it was a huge success. However, its fortunes declined under its new owner. It was not until the 1940s that the *Mirror*, under its chairman Harry Guy Bartholomew, set itself on course to become Britain's biggest-selling daily. "Bart" honed

the paper into a popular, campaigning, irreverent tabloid, but was overthrown by Cecil King in 1951.

King hired Hugh Cudlipp as editor-in-chief and together they transformed the *Mirror* into the bible of the British working class. By 1964 it had reached a sale of five million, a record no other daily has come close to achieving since. In 1968, Cudlipp deposed King but the next year, made a mistake by selling the ailing *Sun* (formerly the *Daily Herald*) to Rupert Murdoch.

This was to seal the fate of the *Mirror* as the new *Sun* gradually supplanted it in popularity. In the early 1980s, the *Mirror's* owner, Reed, decided to offload the *Mirror* Group. Maxwell pounced in 1984 and would

ever after claim that he had saved the paper. To suggest that it required saving is akin to believing that a passer-by has saved a swimmer ankle-deep in a paddling pool by throwing him a lifeline.

It was one of Maxwell's many lies, although he believed it as sincerely as if it were the truth. Every current *Mirror* employee believes that the newspaper has run better without him.

However, the directors realise that this rudderless ship cannot sail on forever without a captain. A senior executive said: "There could be a revenue problem by the end of the year and we must consider raising the cover price. But who will make the final decision?" A colleague quipped: "Perhaps we should put in a call to the Mount of Olives."

Reporters turn the tables amid talk of revenge

BY LIN JENKINS

THE *Daily Mirror*, the engine house of Robert Maxwell's empire, was more like a runaway train yesterday. Having at first protected him against unwelcome enquiry after his death, the newspaper has turned the tables and is determined to beat its rivals on the story of the arrest of Maxwell's sons.

The embarrassment chairman Ernest Burrington's ousting without its knowledge was tempered by a tip off about the arrests of Kevin and Ian Maxwell and Larry Trachtenberg. The *Mirror* was there to see the arrests.

The development also cleared the air of confusion which had caused indecision. A new chairman and the three arrests, has enabled Mirror Group Newspapers to look to the future. Richard Stott, editor of the *Daily Mirror*, oozed good humour in the belief that the path was now open to settle new ownership and the future of the group. Next week's trading results, rumoured to be good, are eagerly awaited.

Mirror journalists, many of whom might lose a great deal

AT THE MIRROR

with Maxwell's plundering of the pension fund, were ebullient. Talk in their local pub, over restrained half pints, was of revenge, and then the broader spectrum of the complexities surrounding fraud trials. They took it in turns to examine the list of charges.

Few doubted that they would soon see a new chairman to replace Sir Robert Clark, former deputy chairman of TSB Group, since the way was now open to sell the titles. Journalists are inclined to be conspiracy theorists and to distrust management. They would prefer to see a new order upstairs. "There are those who have no moral right to control a newspaper," one said. "All those who worked with the big man are tainted."

One of the most graphic indicators of the change since the collapse of the Maxwell empire is that they can now find a parking space in the car park. "There used to be expensive cars belonging to those who worked on a floor of their building at Holborn Circus. That they were paid by the *Mirror* group is in no doubt, what they did for it is. "People who can afford to run a newspaper, and have the ego to want to run one, are probably not entirely trustworthy," another journalist said. "As long as they don't interfere too much with the newspaper nobody is going to object. We just want to get out of this mire and get on with our job of being a good newspaper with a political slant which is in marked contrast to all the others."

There was surprise and glee at the arrests. The journalists' fear had been that the pensioners would be the ones to pay the price for Maxwell's adventures. "At last there is the feeling that something is moving. Now we would like to see some real action against the banks," said one journalist. His colleagues nodded in agreement.

Full list of charges facing the three men

The full charges faced by Kevin and Ian Maxwell and Larry Trachtenberg are as follows:

KEVIN MAXWELL

□ That you did, together with Larry Trachtenberg, on or about October 22, 1991, steal a portfolio of securities quoted on the International Stock Exchange to a value of £5,067,292.86, being the property of AGBPT Ltd. Contrary to Section 1, Theft Act, 1968.

□ That you did, together with Larry Trachtenberg, on or about September 30, 1991, steal a portfolio of securities quoted on the International Stock Exchange managed by Lloyds Investment Management Ltd to a value of £7,009,056, being the property of MGPT Ltd. Contrary to Section 1, Theft Act, 1968.

□ That you did, together with Larry Trachtenberg, on or about October 22, 1991, steal a portfolio of securities quoted on the International Stock Exchange managed by Lloyds Investment Management Ltd to a value of £12,446,703.56, being the

property of MGPT Ltd. Contrary to Section 1, Theft Act, 1968.

□ That you did, together with Larry Trachtenberg, on or about October 22, 1991, steal a portfolio of securities quoted on the International Stock Exchange to a value of £5,067,292.86, being the property of AGBPT Ltd. Contrary to Section 1, Theft Act, 1968.

□ That you did, together with Larry Trachtenberg, on or about October 31, 1991, steal a portfolio of securities quoted on the International Stock Exchange managed by Invesco MIM plc to a value of £12,375,215, being the property of MGPT Ltd. Contrary to Section 1, Theft Act, 1968.

□ That you did, on or about October 22, 1991, steal a portfolio of securities quoted on the International Stock Exchange formerly managed by Thornton Investments Management Ltd to a value of £6,939,885.46, the property of MGPT Ltd. Contrary to Section 1, Theft Act, 1968.

□ That you did, between November 4, 1990, and November 9, 1990, steal £1 million Beritz International Incorporated common stock shares, belonging to Macmillan Incorporated. Con-

THE CHARGES

trary to Section 1, Theft Act, 1968.

□ That you, together with Ian Maxwell and Larry Trachtenberg, between November 10, 1991, and November 14, 1991, conspired to defraud the Swiss Volks Bank (the Bank) of US\$35.5 million by dishonestly and falsely representing two officers of the bank.

(i) that Robert Maxwell Group plc was the legal and beneficial owner of 2.4 million common shares in Beritz International Incorporated (the Shares);

(ii) that Robert Maxwell Group plc had the right to execute, deliver and to perform its obligations pursuant to a pledge agreement between the Bank and Robert Maxwell Trading plc;

(iii) that the Robert Maxwell Group plc had good and marketable title to the shares, free of any and all security interests or options, in favour of, or claims of, any other person except the Bank. Conspiracy to defraud, contrary to common law.

LARRY STEVEN TRACHTENBERG

□ That you, together with Kevin Maxwell, between

May 1, 1991, and December 10, 1991, conspired to defraud the Swiss Volks Bank (the Bank) of US\$35.5 million by dishonestly and falsely representing two officers of the bank.

□ That you, together with Ian Maxwell and Larry Trachtenberg, between November 10, 1991, and November 14, 1991, conspired to defraud the Swiss Volks Bank (the Bank) of US\$35.5 million by dishonestly and falsely representing two officers of the bank.

□ That you did, together with Kevin Maxwell on or about September 30, 1991, steal a portfolio of securities quoted on the International Stock Exchange managed by Lloyds Investment Management Ltd to a value of £7,009,056, being the property of MGPT Ltd. Contrary to Section 1, Theft Act, 1968.

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IAN MAXWELL

□ That you, together with Kevin Maxwell and Larry Trachtenberg, did between November 10, 1991, and November 14, 1991, conspire together to defraud the Swiss Volks Bank (the Bank) of US\$35.5 million by dishonestly and falsely representing to officers at the Bank;

(i) that Robert Maxwell Group plc was the legal and beneficial owner of 2.4 million common shares in Beritz International Incorporated (the Shares);

(ii) that Robert Maxwell Group plc had the right to execute and deliver and to perform its obligations pursuant to a pledge agreement between the Bank and Robert Maxwell Trading plc;

(iii) that the Robert Maxwell Group plc had good and marketable title to the shares, free of any and all security interests or options, in favour of, or claims of, any other person except the Bank. Conspiracy to defraud, contrary to common law.

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KEVIN MAXWELL

Unsold h

Reporters turn the tables amid talk of revenge

THE Daily Mirror the main house of Robert Maxwell's empire, was mired in a bitter struggle yesterday against a new wave of attacks. Having at first protected his family, the newspaper has turned the tables on the story of the fall of Maxwell's empire.

AT THE MIRROR Maxwell's plumed the pension fund was a target. Talk in the local press of revenge, and the prospect of a new wave of attacks, was a target. Talk in the local press of revenge, and the prospect of a new wave of attacks, was a target.

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Key role was given to mystery man from US

By Neil Bennett, Banking Correspondent

THE mysterious Larry Trachtenberg was one of Robert and Kevin Maxwell's closest advisers and played a key role in the centre of their business empire.

The 39-year old Californian came to Britain to study and later lecture in international relations at the London School of Economics. He was recruited by Robert Maxwell in 1986 and rose to become the joint managing director of London & Bishopsgate International Investment Management (LBI), a company set up by Robert Maxwell in 1988 to manage part of his companies' pension funds, and a director of several other key companies within the Maxwell empire.

Mr Trachtenberg arrived in Britain from the United States in 1976, when he was 23, to take an MSc at the London School of Economics in international relations. A year later he began but never completed a PhD in international institutions, such as the United Nations. Instead he began lecturing at the university. In 1979 he won his first post as an occasional teacher, and was repeatedly promoted until he became a full time lecturer in 1982.

In 1983, however, he left the LSE and founded a new information service called Global Analysis Systems with Andrew Smith, a fellow academic. The two men hoped to sell daily political and economic commentaries, prepared by leading academics, to international businesses via computer links. The business was not successful and in 1986 Mr Smith and Mr Trachtenberg approached Robert Maxwell to ask for financial backing. Mr Maxwell, who was expanding his media empire rapidly at the time bought the



Laura Maxwell, right, wife of Ian, outside their home in Belgravia yesterday. Last night the couple visited Kevin and Pandora Maxwell, staying just over an hour

Team of 55 ends seven-month enquiry into files

By Louise Hidalgo

WITHIN four weeks of Robert Maxwell's death, his publishing empire was in the hands of the administrators. Since last November, a team of 55 lawyers, accountants and police officers have been working on five separate investigations by the Serious Fraud Office.

COLLAPSE OF THE EMPIRE

November 29 Citibank to sell 1 per cent stake in MCC. December 2 MGN and MCC shares suspended. December 3 Kevin and Ian Maxwell forced to resign chairmanships of MCC and MGN.

was put up for sale. February 3 The House of Lords refused Kevin Maxwell's right-to-silence plea. February 7 The Maxwell brothers declined to answer written questions submitted to them by the parliamentary select committee.

SIMON WALKER



Pandora Maxwell at her Chelsea home yesterday

KEVIN MAXWELL'S ASSETS	
PROPERTY	
House at Jubilee Place, Chelsea (owned with wife)	£750,000
Chateau at Lot & Garonne, France	£250,000
Chelsea House contents (half share)	£30,000
French home furniture	£10,000
Morgan car	£25,000
Horse	£2,500
Tank	£500
INVESTMENTS	
Transfer Technology Gp (1300 shares)	£3,115
Maxwell Comm Corp (2345)	£821
BP (13,713)	£40,041
Seletv (850)	£174
Grand Merit	£43
Unquoted shares:	
British Int Helicopters (50)	nil
London & Bishopsgate Int Inv Mgt (150,000)	nil
Maxwell Aviation Int (50,000)	£650,000
Oxford Ltd (14 x £7 shares, 256 x £1)	nil
Derby County (100)	nil
BANK ACCOUNTS	
Joint current a/c	£2
Current Plus a/c	£2,539
Special Reserve	£891
Deposit a/c (joint with daughter)	£226
Brown Shipley:	
Deposit a/c	£739
Dollar a/c	£475
Deutschebank a/c	£22
French franc a/c	£49
Robert Fraser:	
A/c No 5320	nil
A/c No 8099	£1,090
Dollar a/c	nil
A/c 5409 & 8058 (joint with Ian)	£57
Manufacturers Hanover joint dollar a/c	£28
Bankers Trust a/c	nil
Credit Lyonnais French francs	£417
OTHER ASSETS	
Owed to Mr Maxwell:	
Loan to mother	£45,000
Loan to T Betsworth	£100,000
Sale of Derby County shares	£582
Commercial Union life assurance cover of £1 million	
DEBTS	
Brown Shipley mortgage on Chelsea:	
Starling loan	£439,303
Currency loan	£551,712
Credit Lyonnais mortgage on French home	£207,676
Loan Partners Inc	£211,475
Surplus of assets over liabilities:	£211,843

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Unsold homes have prices slashed

By Rachel Kelly, Property Correspondent

SOME of the choicest properties owned by Kevin Maxwell and his late father have had their prices slashed after failing to find buyers. The price of Kevin Maxwell's eight bedroom Georgian mansion in Jubilee Place, Chelsea, has dropped by £225,000 since it went on the market three months ago for £1.65 million. Although it was put on the market at the instruction of Kevin Maxwell, Andrew Langdon, of the estate agents Aylesford, said: "You will appreciate that others were also involved." The house is owned by Kevin Maxwell and his wife Pandora, and has a charge against it to the merchant bankers Brown Shipley of an estimated £1 million.

THE PROPERTY

property and that no loans have been taken out to pay for it. Ian Maxwell and his wife Laura live in a £450,000 flat in Belgravia. Ian Maxwell's home, which is registered in his own name, also has a charge against it to Brown Shipley.

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Party unease forces Ashdown to go slow over left alignments

By JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

PADDY Ashdown has been forced to go slow on his plans for a realignment with the left in the wake of the Conservative general election victory.

Following criticism from the party's grass roots that he had forged ahead with his ideas for the future of the party without consulting them, the Liberal Democrat leader has gone out of his way to explain his position and to obtain their views.

In a letter sent to all members this week he makes clear that he is not advocating a pact with Labour but is still keen to explore common areas where opposition parties can work together. He sets out proposals for a pluralistic democracy and asks for members' reactions.

The letter, which coincides with setting up a special telephone line to allow members to record their views on tape, follows Mr Ashdown's Chard speech last month when he called for a new forum for those wishing to see "a viable alternative to Conservatism".

The speech was widely interpreted as Mr Ashdown's first move towards a pact with Labour. The press reports went down badly among councillors and some constituencies who accused Mr Ashdown of plunging ahead

with his own views without consulting the party.

"Unfortunately, much of the press attention was misleading," Mr Ashdown's letter says. "It suggested that I was advocating a pact or an alliance with the Labour party. I am not proposing to impose pacts or electoral arrangements, or just adding up the votes of different parties and hoping that this will get us a majority."

His letter makes no specific reference to the forum but says that the Liberal Democrats should reach beyond their own party and involve others in debates. The voluntary service, the churches and others outside formal politics should be involved.

"We should see the value of a broader movement which can with the Liberal Democrats as its focus, win the battle of ideas in our country and provide Britain with an electable alternative to continued Conservative government," the letter goes on. "We should be prepared to give new leadership to the wider debate about the construction of a post-socialist, non-Conservative Britain."

While sources close to Mr Ashdown say that he is not backtracking from Chard, it is evident that he has slowed

down the pace of change. The sources argue that with the Labour party in disarray coping with internal recriminations, it is hardly the time to push for realignment.

They point, however, to a conference being held on Saturday by a fringe group called Link, the Liberal information network, which will discuss closer co-operation with Labour. Calum Macdonald, Labour MP for Western Isles, who is pressing for the two parties to agree a limited-seat pact at the next election, will be speaking at the event.

Mr Ashdown admits in his letter that some of his proposals will be opposed and would need debate and discussion. "I hope you will let me know what you think and I will make sure that all your comments are fed into our discussions."

In another sop to the grass-roots, Mr Ashdown has decided to hold a full discussion session on the Sunday of the party's annual conference in September about the party's future. The session would allow members to submit their views informally. Mr Ashdown would sit in throughout the session and a motion would then be drafted to be debated at the conference.



Bird's eye view: Earl Howe, parliamentary secretary at the agriculture ministry, observing the work of the Forestry Authority from a treetop walkway at the Alice Holt research station near Farnham, Surrey, yesterday. The site is open to the public today and Sunday

Major welcomes slowdown in jobless increase

By JILL SHERMAN AND ROSS TIEMAN

THE latest unemployment figures, showing a rise of 21,300 last month, led to bitter exchanges at Commons question time yesterday.

The prime minister said that the rise, which pushes unemployment to more than 2.7 million for the first time in five years, was very unwelcome but pointed out that the rate of increase was slowing, suggesting that Britain was on the road to recovery.

Although 9.6 per cent of the workforce are claiming unemployment benefit, the increase, calculated after seasonal adjustments, was less than predicted in the City.

Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, said that John Major's claims on economic recovery had been absurdly wrong.

Mr Major said the Opposition leader should be pleased by recent indicators showing a rise in manufacturing production, growth in retail sales and a slowdown in the rate of increase for average earnings to 7 per cent. "While the increase in unemployment is very unwelcome, it is clearly now slowing. So I think you can now see that we are on the road to recovery," he said.

Paddy Ashdown, Liberal Democrat leader, asked if the government was so consumed by self-satisfaction that it could "offer no hope, no policies and no action for those in need of jobs". Mr Major said that the govern-

ment was putting in place the right economic policy to sustain long term employment prospects.

Gillian Shephard, the employment secretary, said any unemployment increase was a cause for concern, but there were encouraging signs for economic prospects. "The number of days lost to strikes during the year to April was at its lowest since 1929."

Employment department officials said the rate at which people are losing their jobs had apparently halved since the early summer 1991, when the count was rising by more than 60,000 every month. But there has now been a month on-month rise in underlying unemployment for 25 consecutive months.

Earnings slow, page 19



Shephard: encouraging signs in economy

Coal valleys buried under black legacy

High unemployment in the former Welsh mining towns is driving away thousands of young people, reports Tim Jones

ONE of Britain's most economically deprived areas is calling for increased help from government agencies to combat a legacy of despair inherited from the decline of King Coal.

Yesterday's increase in the national jobless figures has reinforced the conviction by Mid Glamorgan county council that it will be a decade or more before unemployment in the area, already amongst the highest in Britain, will fall.

A report considered by councillors yesterday shows that thousands of people are moving from the former mining valleys, leaving behind an impoverished and ageing population. The report paints a grim picture of wasted talent, low incomes, poor housing and a breakup of tight-knit communities. Tens of thousands of people once worked in valleys such as the Rhondda, whose names were synonymous with fuelling the empire. Now, fewer than 1,000 are employed in the coal industry.

The report concedes that without special measures there is little hope of creating over the next decade the 20,000 jobs needed to reduce unemployment to 1990 levels. At present, the area has 26,568 people registered as unemployed, 14.5 per cent of the workforce compared with a national average of 9.4 per cent. Among males, the figure climbs to more than one in five.

The figure for the so-called hidden unemployed is the worst in Britain. Nearly one quarter of the county's males and half its females between the ages of 16 and 65 are defined as not being economically active, usually because of ill health, family responsibilities or a lack of prospects of finding a job.

The report states: "High levels of unemployment are a waste of human and economic potential and will make continued population loss from valleys communities and hardship and deprivation in many households very likely."



What is it all about? Labour's economic policy

AROUND THE LOBBY

Britain to apologise to Sweden

Taxless tenant

Longest recess

Urgent debate

Parliament today

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• Super rinse button
Model WM1892.
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Model	Was	Save	Sale Price
BENDIX 1000 Spin Autowasher Model AW420	£399.99	£70	£329.99
HOTPOINT 800 Spin Autowasher Model 9575, 0% INTEREST	£369.99	£40	£329.99
SERVIS 1200 Spin Autowasher Model 612	£449.99	£100	£349.99
PHILCO ECOTRONIC 1300 Spin Autowasher Model WM1894, 0% INTEREST	£479.99	£100	£379.99
WHIRLPOOL AQUALINE 1000 Spin Autowasher Model AWG740, 0% INTEREST	£429.99	£30	£399.99

20% DEPOSIT, 6 DIRECT DEBIT MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £44

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1100 Spin Autowasher
• 11lb washload
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• Temperature economy option
Model AC136.
Was £489.99.
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20% DEPOSIT, 6 DIRECT DEBIT MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £56

Model	Was	Save	Sale Price
ZANUSSI 1000 Spin Jet System Autowasher Model J11040, 0% INTEREST	£499.99	£60	£439.99
WHIRLPOOL AQUALINE 1000 Spin Autowasher Model AWG740, 0% INTEREST	£429.99	£30	£399.99

20% DEPOSIT, 6 DIRECT DEBIT MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £56

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• Pre-wash facility
• Wool programme
Model M911W.
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SALE PRICE £379.99
20% DEPOSIT, 6 DIRECT DEBIT MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £50.67

Model	Was	Save	Sale Price
PHILCO ECOTRONIC 1000 Spin Washerdryer Model 1896, 0% INTEREST	£499.99	£100	£399.99
WHIRLPOOL 1000 Spin Washerdryer Model AWG997, 0% INTEREST	£449.99	£20	£429.99
HOOVER ECOLOGIC 1000 Spin Washerdryer Model 8596, 0% INTEREST	£554.99	£80	£474.99
HOTPOINT AQUARIUS 1000 Spin Washerdryer Model 9771, 0% INTEREST	£499.99	£20	£479.99

20% DEPOSIT, 6 DIRECT DEBIT MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £50.67

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• Exclusive adjustable top basket
• 4-way spray action for sparkling results
• Exclusive cutlery basket with handle
• Exclusive informative programme display
Model 7871.
Was £399.99.
SALE PRICE £379.99
20% DEPOSIT, 6 DIRECT DEBIT MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £50.67

Model	Was	Save	Sale Price
SERVIS Full Size Dishwasher Model M410W.	£329.99	£60	£269.99
PHILCO Full Size Dishwasher Model 1906, 0% INTEREST	£349.99	£50	£299.99
ZANUSSI 'Aqualine' Slimline Dishwasher Model D516, 0% INTEREST	£399.99	£40	£359.99

20% DEPOSIT, 6 DIRECT DEBIT MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £46

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Model F151.
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Model	Was	Save	Sale Price
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Model	Was	Save	Sale Price
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Model	Was	Save	Sale Price
BELLING 'Bartani' Electric Slot-in Cooker Model 328, 0% INTEREST	£389.99	£90	£299.99
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Labour says failure to win voters' trust lost election

By Philip Webster
Chief Political Correspondent

LABOUR lost the election because it failed to win the trust of voters, party leaders said yesterday.

After days of recriminations about the role of key advisers and the impact of campaign events such as the "Jennie's cat" health broadcast and the Sheffield rally, a national executive inquiry has concluded that while mistakes were made none of them accounted for Labour's failure.

Neil Kinnock told the meeting: "We have to recognise that we lost by 7.5 per cent. Our defeat cannot be attributed to individuals or individual events, to the campaign, the conduct of the campaign or the last week of the campaign. The plain truth is that too many voters had memories of the problems in the Labour party of years gone by."

The executive responded to an appeal from John Evans, its chairman, to calm the rising passions in the party.

Instead, in what officials called a serious and rational appraisal, it decided that Labour had lost because it failed to convince people that it was safe to vote for it, that it had failed to deliver its "core" vote among council tenants, the unemployed and pensioners, that it had failed to attract sufficient women voters aged more than 35, that it had failed to match the Tory party organisation on the ground in many areas, and that the tabloid press had switched many voters from Labour at the last minute because of its continuous campaign of vilification against Mr Kinnock and the party in general.

Larry Whitty, the general secretary, whose 58 page report on the election formed the basis for the debate, said that the underlying problems facing Labour included a general unease about Labour's ability to manage the economy and fear that

some of its taxation measures would make people less well-off. "To some extent they were convinced by our arguments — many of them wanted to vote Labour — but almost at the last minute they decided they could not afford to do so in the depths of the recession," Labour had failed to woo "suburban man and woman".

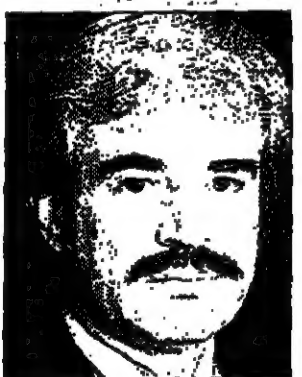
Mr Whitty said that Labour had failed to get out its core vote partly because of under-registration in some areas but partly because its appeal and organisation did not turn them out. While the Conservative headquarters performance had been regarded as a "shambles" its operation on the ground was considerably better. He said that the tabloid attack on Labour was more vicious than before. It had to be significant that 11 per cent of readers of *The Sun* appeared to have switched in the last week and only 1 per cent of *Daily Mirror* readers.

Gerald Kaufman, shadow foreign secretary, said before the meeting: "There were still too many memories of what had happened in the early 1980s when certain people in the party seemed to be more interested in taking over the party than winning a general election."

Mr Kinnock told the NEC that a small but crucial section of the population had felt they could not trust Labour. He was convinced that the polls had not got it as wrong as people had suggested. They had picked up a degree of change in the last days but not its full extent. Britain had the most biased press in any democratic country. "That is not to say that the tabloid press won the election for the Tories but it had a critical effect on a crucial 5 per cent."

He called on Labour not to mourn but to organise and prepare by building on developments in policy and organisation made in recent years, and to concentrate on winning the argument in front of the electorate and not within the Labour party. "If we are to help the have-nots we have to get the support of the haves and the have-not-enoughs. We must be the party that represents all the people."

At the end of the debate Mr Kinnock said that Labour could not proceed by blaming individuals and blood-letting. "We have not heard that today. I am delighted by that and I hope the positive mood of today's meeting will prevail in the future."



Whitty: party had failed to woo suburban man



Britain to apologise to Sweden

THE government is to apologise to the government and people of Sweden for the behaviour of English soccer hooligans at the European Championship. Tony Newton, Leader of the House, said.

He was replying to Joe Ashton, Labour MP for Bassetlaw, who spoke of the "crass behaviour of the vandals" and asked the government to apologise to Uefa not to ban Sheffield Wednesday, Manchester United and Leeds United from European football, because they had committed no crime.

Taxless tenant

The government is to amend the Finance Bill to allow home-owners to rent a room without having to pay tax. The maximum rent allowed will be £65.

Longest recess

The Commons will rise for the summer recess on July 16 and return on October 19, the longest summer break in modern times.

Urgent debate

MPs are to have a debate on their research and secretarial allowances before the summer recess. Parliament today Commons (9.30): debate on private member's motion on recycling.

Clarke rejects ID cards

By Arthur Leathley

KENNETH Clarke, the home secretary, resisted pressure from Tory MPs yesterday to introduce an identity card scheme wanted by senior police officers. He said that he was not convinced of the need for the cards, or that they offered any law enforcement benefits.

Mr Clarke accepted that the Association of Chief Police Officers differed in its view, but wanted the association to set out in detail how such a scheme would help law enforcement. People were "prepared to do anything" to help the police, but would want to know the benefits.

Sir John Hunt (C, Ravensbourne) led the appeals for cards, which he said could help to prevent fraud, terrorism and illegal immigration. He said that Mr Clarke's response was disappointing.

David Winnick (Lab, Walsall North) said that there was no justification for introducing cards and added that people would suspect that their introduction would be another example of control from Europe. Mr Clarke replied that, although eight EC countries used identity cards, Britain would not be forced into following suit.

David Ashby (C, Leicestershire NW) said that the disappearance of frontier controls in Europe meant that it was time to start planning an identity card scheme. Mr Clarke said that cards would not obviate the need to retain internal frontier controls, which Britain believed it was entitled to maintain.



In the picture: Jack Cunningham, election campaign coordinator, arriving at the meeting yesterday

Party blandness blamed for woes

A new academic study of the Labour party paints a depressing picture of defeatism and local disillusion, Robin Oakley finds

LABOUR is unlikely to survive as the main alternative party of government in Britain unless it can be "energised" at the grass-roots level, according to a new examination of the party's membership. A new academic study, in which the party co-operated, suggests that Labour is suffering from the "nationalisation" of its own activities at branch level and that it is now suffering as badly from "blandness" as it did once from its internal splits.

In *Labour's Grass Roots* Patrick Seyd, a Sheffield University lecturer, and Paul Whiteley, a professor at the College of William and Mary, Virginia, argue that Labour supporters have become passive, demoralised by a series of electoral defeats and by the central party's takeover of campaigning.

They suggest that Labour is afraid of involving its own activists and they argue that safety-first policies have been taken too far. "If disunity exerts an electoral price, then so does blandness. Blandness puts off voters who complain that they cannot see the difference between the parties and it demoralises the activists who are no longer inclined to mobilise the vote."

The study praises Labour's organisers for stemming the

haemorrhage of membership in the 1980s, when it dropped to the lowest level for 40 years. But it says that the drive to double membership between 1987 and 1991 has failed.

Seyd and Whiteley praise the professionalism now evident in recruitment and fund-raising but say that there is no clear idea of the political input to be made by those recruited to Labour's ranks. Local meetings frequently fail to achieve a quorum, fewer resolutions are sent to party headquarters and "the party at national level often refrains from mounting any campaigns against particular features of Conservative government policies for fear that they may be dominated by 'ultra-left extremists'".

Labour organisation, the authors find, has suffered from the decline in traditional working class communities. A better educated and higher-paid population finds other activities more fun than politics; and many find single issue pressure groups more rewarding than political party membership.

Seyd and Whiteley say that Conservative dominance over British politics in the 1980s has induced defeatism on the left.

Labour's Grass Roots, Blackwell University Press, £32.50

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SHERMAN AND ROSS THEM

Employment in the former West is driving away thousands of people, reports Tim Jones

The report comes without special announcement, but the best deal over the past decade has been a 20 per cent increase in unemployment levels. At present, the level of unemployment is 14.5 per cent, compared with 12.5 per cent in 1981. The report also shows that the number of people in the armed forces has fallen by 10 per cent since 1981. The report also shows that the number of people in the health service has fallen by 10 per cent since 1981. The report also shows that the number of people in the education system has fallen by 10 per cent since 1981.



Shepherd encourages signs in common

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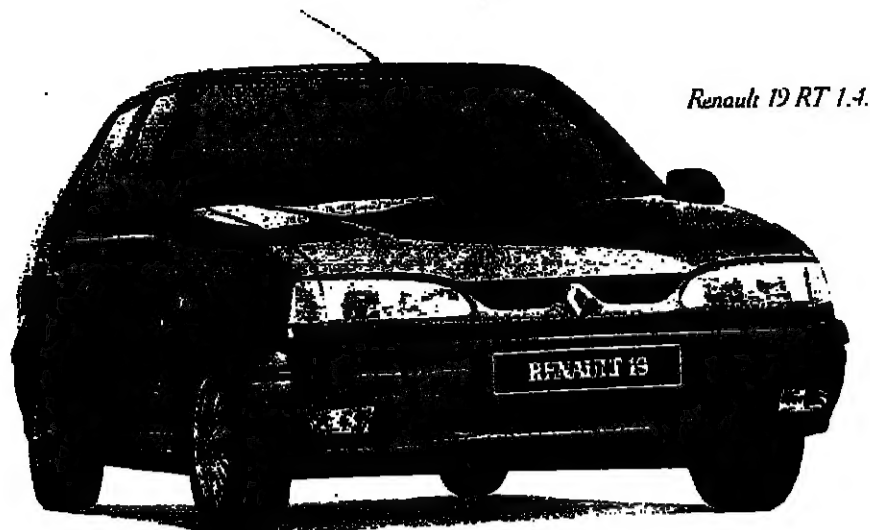
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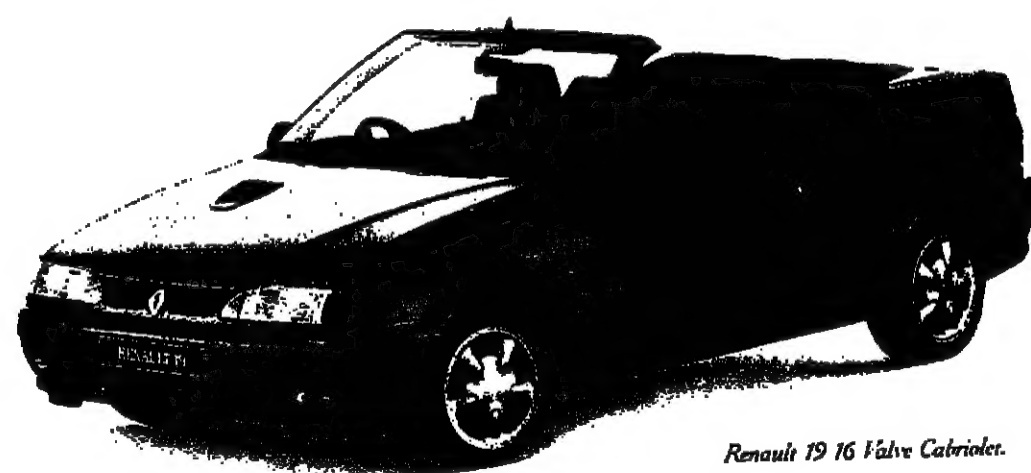
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Charity-run homes for elderly turn away poor

By JEREMY LAURANCE
SOCIAL SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

OLD people who want to live in residential homes run by voluntary organisations are being turned away unless they have substantial private incomes. The organisations can no longer afford to help them to pay the fees.

About a quarter of 55 voluntary organisations questioned in a survey said that they were no longer accepting people on income support because the payments fell too far below the costs of providing care. Until now, homes run by voluntary organisations have been seen as the last resort for people who cannot pay private home fees.

A survey by the Age Concern Institute of Gerontology found widespread anxiety among residents unable to meet their fees.

Many old people are having to ask as many as eight or nine charities for help in topping up income support payments because the average grant is only £20 a week towards an average shortfall of more than £50 a week. In all, 117 charities included in the research paid out £5 million to nearly 7,000 residents.

Fay Wright, author of the report, said: "One charity awarded a grant of 90p a week, which raises questions about administrative costs. Then as soon as the fees go up, which can happen several times a year, they are back to the charities for more help."

Among 400 elderly residents who applied to charities for help with topping up, more than half had contributed their personal allowance, worth £11.40 and intended for such items as stationery and toiletries, towards the fees, leaving themselves without spending money.

"The older they were the more likely they were to have had their personal allowance taken from them," Dr Wright said. "Among 90-year-olds, three quarters had lost it. Home owners are making agist assumptions that older people don't have personal needs."

Charities running homes lost an average of 16.8 per cent on their homes' incomes last year as a result of topping up payments for residents on income support. That is estimated to have absorbed 38 per cent of their total spending on old people. Five organisations had been forced to close homes and others had cut back on maintenance.

The report, commissioned by the Association of Charity Officers, said: "It is ironic that voluntary sector homes are sustaining such damage at a time when local authorities are under strong financial pressure to withdraw from directly providing residential care themselves and to sell or transfer existing homes to the private sector."

Pensions at 65 'will penalise women'

By TIM JONES

THE government was asked yesterday to lower state pension ages to 60 for men and women and was told that it could risk another "poll tax debacle" if any decision to equalise them made people worse off.

The Equal Opportunities Commission, responding to a social security department discussion paper, urged the government to take a broader look at pensions before announcing proposals that will shape the pension system for the next fifty years or more.

June Bridgeman, of the commission, said that some sources suggested that, if retirement age were equalised at 65, it would save the government more than £3 billion, but would be at the expense of elderly women. "Even now, many women face poverty in retirement, largely due to the caring responsibilities that have kept them out of the workforce for long periods or forced them into low-paid, part-time jobs resulting in inadequate pensions," she said.

"Millions of women already have a raw deal on pensions. Our main concern is to ensure that equality is not achieved at the expense of making them even worse off."

She said that the government had claimed it wanted wide public discussion of the issue, "but this has scarcely begun so far as women are concerned." People did not want to be blocked off by selective statistics and pensioners were unlikely to see any reason for equalisation to produce a Treasury windfall at their expense.

Tate wants £100m to expand by 60 per cent

By SIMON TAIT, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

THE Tate Gallery hopes to emulate the National Gallery with multi-million pound expansion plans that will increase exhibition space by at least 60 per cent.

A scheme is to be drawn up for the approval of David Mellor, the heritage secretary, which would involve new building and conversion of a former nurses' home on the gallery's Millbank site. The aim is to complete it between the Tate's centenary year, 1997, and 2000.

No figures have been calculated yet, but the development cost is likely to be close to £50 million. The existing galleries urgently need repair and upgrading, which would bring the total to more than £100 million.

Nicholas Serota, the Tate's director, said yesterday: "Using the available space already on the site, we could increase our display area by two thirds. Funding would have to be a mixture of private and public money."

Controversial aspects of proposals which were put before the trustees on Wednesday included moving curators and conservators

from the main building, separating them from the paintings on display, and splitting the Tate's British and modern collections. Mr Serota said he believed that a scheme could be devised to make neither option necessary.

The extra space on the existing site might not be enough. Between 15 and 20 per cent of the Tate's collection can now be displayed, whereas the gallery would like to be able to show 50 to 60 per cent.

The former nurses' home,

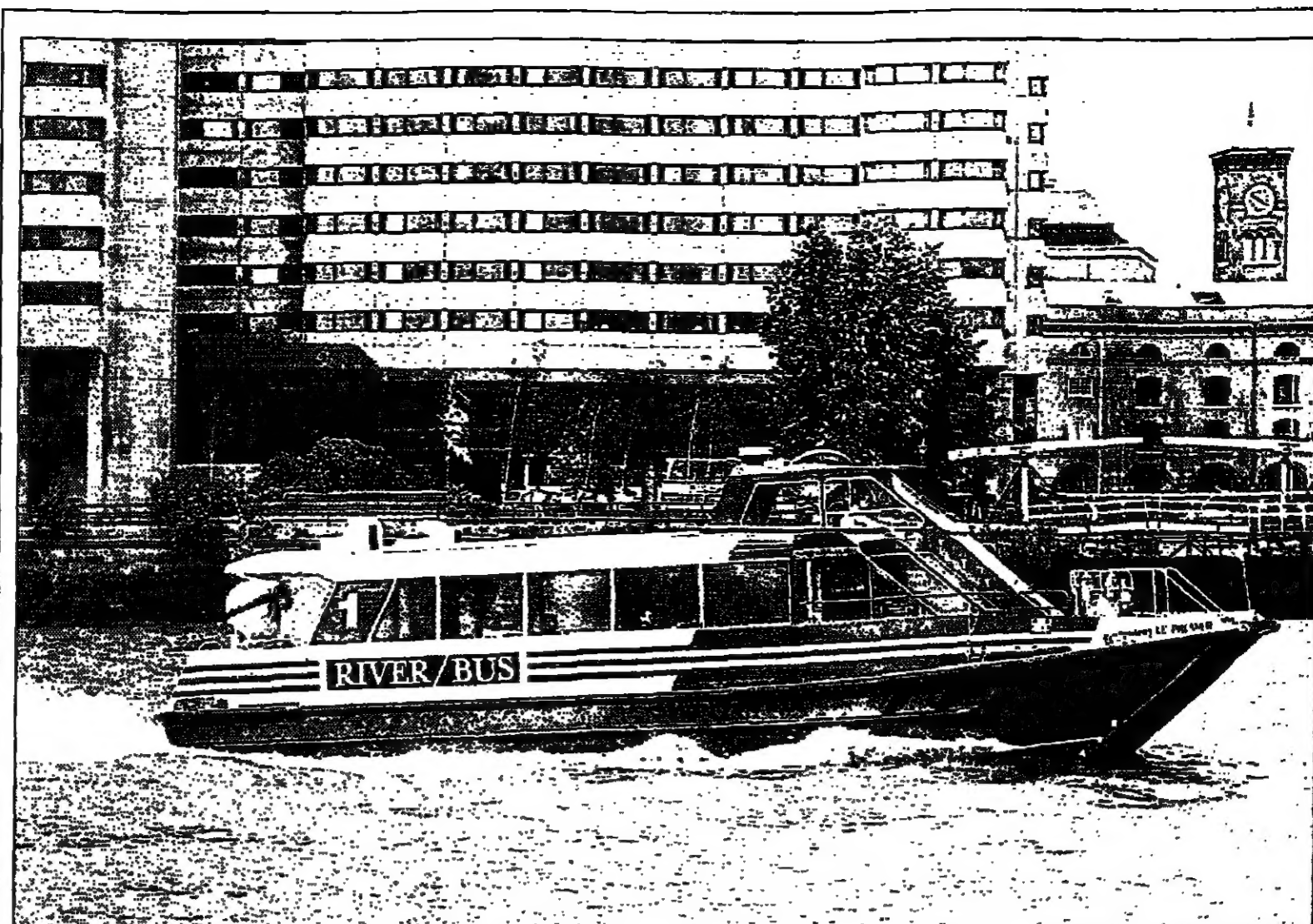


Serota: seeks public and private funding

fronting on to Isip Street, is occupied, as a tenant of the Tate, by the National Art Collections Fund, whose new director, David Barrie, has said that it should move within a year to premises yet to be found. The Tate's trustees would like to acquire a neighbouring site used by the Ministry of Defence, which has on it the Royal Army Medical School and barracks buildings.

Lord St John of Fawley, chairman of the Royal Fine Art Commission, has criticised the poor quality of government buildings and its lack of architectural distinction.

"Government has become a principal patron of architecture in Britain and the direct successor of some of the great private patrons of the past, but it is far from reaching the high standards of building achieved by many of them," he said, launching a report on government patronage and architecture, called *Medici and the Millennium?* He called on Mr Mellor to grasp the approaching millennium as a rare opportunity to improve architectural patronage.



Picking up speed: after an expensive launch in 1988, the Riverbus has now reached a critical momentum. Demand is up 170 per cent

Ailing Riverbus heads for new ownership

CONFIDENTIAL talks aimed at disposing of the Riverbus, London's ailing waterborne commuter and passenger service, are expected to lead to a new owner by July, it was disclosed yesterday.

Negotiations are in progress with a number of interested parties over the long-term future of the Riverbus, which was thrown into doubt when Olympia & York, the Canary Wharf developer, and part owner of the Riverbus with P&O, went into administration in May.

Use of the Riverbus has increased substantially in recent months, due to greater efforts to market the service, and the desire of

London tourists to see the Docklands' obelisk. Demand is up 170 per cent on last year, and the Riverbus expects to carry one million passengers in 1992, although the company is still likely to run at a substantial loss.

The high-speed service, which runs between Chelsea and Docklands, was originally launched by Paul Channon, the former transport secretary, in June 1988, after 1,700 investors raised £4.5 million to start the service under the Business Expansion Scheme. But commuter indifference soon made predictions that Londoners would use the Riverbus with the same casual nonchalance as Venetians use the *vaporetto* seem

The Riverbus has fallen far short of being London's answer to Venice's *vaporetto*, reports Michael Dynes

somewhat far-fetched. Financial collapse was averted in February 1989 after a group of Docklands property developers, including Olympia & York, Charter Group, Regalian Properties, Rosehaugh Stanhope, and Chelsea Harbour, put up £2.5 million to rescue the service.

partnership. Olympia & York and P&O, the Chelsea Harbour developer, are the only members of the 1989 property partnership to have retained their interest in the Riverbus, which now operates 11 boats and nine piers, including three new stops at Cadogan Pier, Chelsea, St Katherine's Dock, Tower Bridge, and Canary Wharf in Docklands.

In spite of uncertainty hanging over the Riverbus operation, managers are confident that the service will survive. "Nothing compares with the Riverbus. It is the most civilised way to get to work in London," a spokesman said. High capital costs made the Riverbus, which now employs about

80 people, an expensive operation to launch. But it has just about reached critical momentum, he added.

According to Bob Aspinall, the librarian at the Museum of London, the Riverbus service represents the fourth attempt to launch a river-borne commuter service since the second world war.

The Water Bus service, which began in 1948, lasted until 1962 before being shut down after incurring substantial losses. Similarly, a Hovercraft service, launched in 1973, failed to last a single season, while a Hydrofoil service, established in 1974, went out of business two years later, for the same reasons.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Student stole £40,000

The former treasurer of the Oxford Polytechnic students' union, who stole £40,000 of union money, saying it was a golden handshake for saving the union money, was jailed for two and a half years yesterday.

A jury at Oxford Crown Court was told that Paul Edward Crossland, 25, of Canterbury, Kent, made out a cheque for £5 to a fellow student in 1989 and then altered the sum to £40,000 before paying it into a fictitious account. He then withdrew £37,000 in cash and flew to France.

Crossland was found guilty of theft and forgery and ordered to pay £6,000 compensation.

Green fingers

One gardener in two is giving up the use of weedkillers and other chemicals, according to a survey by the magazine *Gardening from Which?* One in five has abandoned garden chemicals altogether. More than 2,000 gardeners took part in the survey.

Good tidings

A policeman arrested an alleged shoplifter after chasing him into the sea at Llandudno, Gwynedd. After the tide went out a clock was found on the beach.

Nissan charge

Tore Arne Thorsen, 52, a Norwegian shipping magnate, has been sent for trial to Southwark Crown Court by Teesside magistrates, accused of a £100 million fraud over car imports by Nissan UK.

Unlucky escape

A prisoner who was one of six who escaped from Evershorpe jail, Humberside, had to be rescued by helicopter after he fell down a railway embankment and injured his leg and hip. All six have been recaptured.

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Lottery revives Albert's cultural vision

SOUTH Kensington would become a traffic-free cultural fairground, reawakening Prince Albert's vision, under a scheme to mark the millennium being prepared by the architect Sir Norman Foster and to be funded by a national lottery.

The scheme would also mark the 150th anniversary of the body which created the Great Exhibition of 1851 and the estate financed from the exhibition's profits, intended to "increase the means of industrial education, and extend the influence of science and art upon productive industry."

The Royal Commission of the 1851 Exhibition found itself with a profit of £186,000 and, on Albert's suggestion, bought an 87-acre area at Brompton as a cultural estate and called it South Kensington. The commission is still the landlord for the Royal Albert Hall, the Royal College of Art, the Imperial College of Science, the Royal College of Music and most of the other institutions in the block

The heritage secretary has no shortage of suggestions for marking the millennium. Simon Tait looks at schemes for London

bounded by Exhibition Road, Brompton Road, Queensgate and Kensington Gore.

The heads of all those institutions have asked Sir Norman, the science college's consultant architect, to prepare a feasibility plan for returning to Albert's vision. It includes creating a precinct by closing Exhibition Road and taking traffic through an underpass between Hyde Park and Brompton Road. The pedestrian passage between South Kensington Underground station and the Science Museum would be extended to the Albert Hall and made into a market.

Exhibition Road would become a tree-lined promenade, with parking underneath Kensington Gardens. The institutions would be altered to have their main entrances facing inwards, so that the Albert Hall's main

foyer would be where it was designed to be, facing south towards the Great Exhibition memorial statue and the music college.

Patrick Deuchar, executive of the Albert Hall, said: "We all want to return to Albertopolis, to the coherence of the estate as Albert saw it, instead of the collection of isolated buildings which it has become."

Another scheme to mark the millennium, the South Bank opera house, sprang from the 1951 Festival of Britain. Sir Denys Lasdun, architect of the National Theatre, was originally commissioned to design a complex north of the Shell Tower to include a theatre on the west side and an opera house to the east.

The idea has been revived because of a growing belief that the only feasible way of satisfying a growing public demand for inexpensive op-

era seats is to start afresh, rather than to develop the Royal Opera House. A lottery, after all, paid for the Sydney Opera House.

The South Bank opera house could have two auditoria, receiving touring companies and providing a home for resident national companies. For it to work, there would have to be a subsidy of 60 per cent of costs, instead of the 40 per cent Covent Garden receives. The present £200 million South Bank development scheme would almost certainly be scrapped.

In spite of English National Opera's recent acquisition of the Coliseum, thanks to a £10.8 million government grant, the company's move to the South Bank would free the theatre to become the national dance house.

Not only does the Tate Gallery want to increase its space, but the British Museum also wants to fill in the area left by the British Library and increase its own space by 40 per cent at a cost of £80 million.

MOST STORES OPEN THROUGHOUT THE WEEKEND AND SOME ARE ON THURSDAY EVENING

Yeltsin manages to eclipse Gorbachev

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

IN an astounding summit success, Boris Yeltsin has broken out from behind the shadow of Mikhail Gorbachev and convinced the American administration of his legitimacy and international stature. The Russian leader made possible the most far-reaching superpower arms reduction agreement in an exchange with America that far exceeded expectations.

If the 1990 address to Congress by President Havel of Czechoslovakia was a success, Mr Yeltsin's speech on Tuesday was a sensation. "One of the finest speeches I've ever heard," said Joseph Kennedy, a Democrat. "He had every one in the palm of his hand," said Jerry Lewis, a Republican. Thirteen times congress-

men rose from their seats to cheer Mr Yeltsin. The decorous House chamber rang to spontaneous chants of "Boris, Boris".

It was a triumphant climax to an astounding inaugural summit. Mr Yeltsin not only made possible the most sweeping arms reduction accord of the nuclear age, he broke from the shadow of Mr Gorbachev, the administration's past favourite, and established himself as an international figure of immense legitimacy and stature.

Once derided by Washington's political elite as a buffoon and hard-drinking boor, Mr Yeltsin was hailed by American commentators yesterday as a "master statesman", a "risktaker of enormous dimensions" and "one of the most important and heroic figures in Russian history". President Bush, his electoral fortunes rising by the minute, appeared bowled over.

Deliberately or otherwise, Mr Yeltsin managed to make Mr Gorbachev, his old nemesis, look distinctly shady. Mr Gorbachev spoke of reforming communism. Mr Yeltsin of destroying it. While Mr Gorbachev flirted with democracy and free-market economics, the Russian president boasted of giant steps already taken. Mr Gorbachev advocated glasnost, but dark secrets of the Soviet era tumbled from Mr Yeltsin. "There will be no more lies, ever," he declared.

In a stunning blow to Mr Gorbachev's good name, Mr Yeltsin insisted that the last Soviet president knew full well that American servicemen had been held in Soviet prison camps. "I am not responsible for him," snapped the Russian president when asked to explain Mr Gorbachev's alleged duplicity.

The goodwill Mr Yeltsin engendered in Washington is unquantifiable, but seems bound to translate into concrete rewards. He has essentially traded nuclear arms for dollars, billions of them.

He made such an impression on Mr Bush, Congress and the general public that congressional passage of an American aid package for Russia now looks far more likely, even in an election year. Mr Bush promised to put pressure on the International Monetary Fund to stop quibbling about details of Russia's economic reform plan and speedily to free up a \$24 billion (£13 billion) Western aid package.

Saying the \$24 billion would pave the way for hundreds of billions of dollars in private sector investments, Mr Yeltsin and Mr Bush signed a package of commercial agreements to facilitate such investments. Mr Yeltsin will also go home with most favoured nation trading status for his country.

Possibly the biggest danger for Mr Yeltsin is that he was far too successful in persuading Washington that Russia was now his friend. Why pay to reform a country that no longer poses a threat?

Just how far Mr Yeltsin and Mr Bush carried the new US-Russian partnership this week became strikingly apparent during their Wednesday afternoon cruise on Chesapeake Bay, on a boat seized from drug dealers and converted. On board with them was the military officer carrying the "nuclear football". He looked an utter anachronism.

Joint peace force, page 1



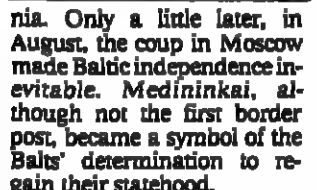
Writing history: President Bush conferring with President Yeltsin at the signing in the White House on Wednesday of the landmark agreement to destroy thousands of nuclear weapons. The two leaders also signed bilateral economic and scientific accords

Border controls go up in Baltic states

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN TALLINN

NEAR Medininkai, on the Lithuanian side of the border with Belarus, there are two shiny portable cabins, a couple of blue-uniformed border guards and two brown-suited customs officials who examine the boot of your car for such unauthorised exports as food. Behind the first cabin there is also a tiny flowerbed with a wooden cross, a memorial to the five border guards murdered there last July.

Nobody has been charged with their deaths, but it is widely believed by Lithuanians that their killing was a last attempt by Soviet special troops to intimidate Lithuania.



Only a little later, in August, the coup in Moscow made Baltic independence inevitable. Medininkai, although not the first border post, became a symbol of the Baltic determination to regain their statehood.

Now Lithuania claims to have control of its whole state border except, and it is a big except, for the sea lanes and air corridors forming part of the continuing dispute with Russia about troop withdrawals. For anyone arriving and departing by air, however, the only border formality is an outgoing customs check.

Latvia gives every appearance of taking border controls more seriously. If you are non-Russian starting from

Moscow, you need a visa to get there. In practice, however, there was nobody at Riga airport around midnight to process the delayed flight from Moscow.

Control along Latvia's land border with Estonia seems similarly half-hearted. A group of young men, dressed in what could just pass for a uniform, with baseball caps on their heads, slouched around a road block waiting for customs.

But, across a short no-man's land, the Estonian frontier presents quite a different picture, resembling a mini-Checkpoint Charlie, with lights, barriers and a narrow zig-zag roadway.

Tallinn airport, too, reveals that Estonia is ahead in the frontier stakes, which is not good news for Russians. Once their battered cases and boxes have been through the two x-ray machines in 10 yards (more food checks), they find themselves effectively "abroad", and therefore penniless. In Estonia proper their troubles have been legal tender. In the "international departure lounge" at the airport, however, everything is priced in Deutschmarks. The humiliation is most likely deliberate, a last little jab at the nation that enslaved them.

Moscow, to the chagrin of the arriving Balts, has not yet changed its ways. Anyone who steps off a flight from the Baltic has completed an internal flight. There are no border checks, no passport controls and no customs. The Russians, it seems, can still not bring themselves to acknowledge that the Baltic states are no longer "theirs", and their airport formalities reflect this. But how the Balts wish they did not.

CBS names 'Deep Throat'

BY MARTIN FLETCHER

CARL Bernstein calls it the "one great secret in the whole world": who was Deep Throat, the government source who gave invaluable leads to Bob Woodward, Mr Bernstein's colleague on *The Washington Post* when the two reporters investigated the Watergate scandal?

On Wednesday night, the 20th anniversary of the break-in at the Democrats' headquarters that led to President Nixon's resignation, CBS television provided an answer. In interviews for a documentary Messrs Woodward and Bernstein denied claims that Deep Throat was a composite of several sources and said he was still alive.

CBS scoured the book, *All the President's Men*, and the journalists' other writings for clues. Using published dates of the meetings with Deep Throat, CBS eliminated three prime suspects. Al Haig, the former White House chief of staff. Henry Kissinger, then national security adviser, and Melvin Laird, then defence secretary. All were out of the country on at least one of those occasions.

The nature of Deep Throat's tips was pointed to the FBI, which was pursuing its own Watergate investigation. Mr Nixon once accused Mark Felt, the FBI's deputy director, of being Deep Throat. Accused by CBS, Mr Felt denied the charge and pointed out that he had given up smoking in 1943. According to Mr Woodward, the source he met in the celebrated underground car park was a chain smoker.

"There is one person we have come to believe best fits the description of Deep Throat," said CBS, and it

named Patrick Gray, a former assistant attorney-general who was appointed acting director of the FBI just before the Watergate break-in.

The documentary said Mr Gray "started out as a Nixon loyalist" but became "increasingly disgusted" as he was dragged into Watergate and "came to loathe dealing with all the president's men".

Another mystery about Deep Throat was how a government official could have managed such lengthy, clandestine meetings in the middle of the night. Mr Gray lived in a flat in a building with an underground car

park just four blocks from Mr Woodward's flat. He jogged before dawn, which would have enabled him to mark Mr Woodward's newspaper in one of their pre-arranged signals for a meeting. He could easily have driven to work past Mr Woodward's flat to check if the reporter had moved his balcony flower pot, the other signal.

Now 76, Mr Gray lives in Connecticut, has an unlisted telephone number, and has not spoken publicly about his role in 20 years. His lawyer denied he was Deep Throat, but Mr Gray has made no comment.

Former Soviet major claims PoWs went to Kazakhstan

Fresh evidence is expected to emerge soon that American PoWs from Vietnam were held in the Soviet Union, Bruce Clark writes from Moscow

FRESH light could be shed next week on the acutely sensitive subject of American soldiers brought to the Soviet Union during the Vietnam war.

A Soviet army major and amateur historian who has gathered information about one or more American soldiers being moved to Kazakhstan in 1967 will be summoned to Moscow to testify before a parliamentary committee on prisoners on war. The major, 32, now serving in Yekaterinburg, is understood to have spoken to a KGB officer who recalled escorting at least one American POW from Vietnam to Soviet Central Asia.

However, the young officer, fearful of compromising his own career prospects, has refused to make further details of the story, or his own name, public unless invited to do so by an official body. That invitation will be dispatched today in the form of a cable from Yuri Smirnov, a Russian parliamentarian.

Several members of a joint

US-Russian commission on PoWs flew yesterday to Pechora, 750 miles northeast of Moscow, to investigate the possibility that David Markin, an American pilot captured during the Korean war, is still alive. Foreign ministry officials said the trip had been planned before President Yeltsin's comments in Washington about the possibility that American PoWs were still living in Russia, although the visit appeared to have been hastily organised.

When the investigators arrived at the remote camp, home to 200 prisoners, they found only freshly painted walls and assurances from both officials and inmates that there were not and never had been any Americans there. Major General Leonid Khamluk, who is responsible

for the region, said the team of two civilian and one military investigators refused to divulge the source of their information.

Yuri Pankov, a Russian investigative reporter who has made a special study of the fate of American PoWs, said he had obtained documentary evidence to back up the claim by Oleg Kalugin, a former KGB general, that Soviet officers helped interrogate prisoners in Vietnam. Mr Pankov has procured copies of two nearly identical intelligence documents in which a KGB general is authorised to send Colonel O.M. Nechiporenko to Vietnam for a fortnight at KGB expense, apparently to participate in interrogation.

The two documents were dated November 20, 1972

Lacklustre Shamir style sends supporters to sleep

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN BAT YAM, ISRAEL

WHEN Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli prime minister, stepped gingerly from his limousine onto the pavement of this Tel Aviv suburb, he may have expected the sort of rousing reception that has so far been lacking in his other campaign appearances.

Not only is the working-class community of Bat Yam made up of the archetypal Likud supporters, many of them underprivileged Sephardi (oriental) Jews who emigrated from North Africa, but his own recent tragic history should have made it doubly eager to embrace the standard-bearer of the Israeli right wing.

Only yards from where Mr Shamir was due to speak stood the pavement memorial of Israeli flags and withered flowers left by residents in tribute to Helena Rapp, 15, who was stabbed to death by a Palestinian labourer this month in an attack which helped to refocus next week's elections on the central question of Israel's security. The unprecedented streets riots

which erupted in Bat Yam after the murder should have played right into the hands of the ruling Likud and its right-wing allies, who have vowed to eliminate Palestinian resistance to Israeli rule in the occupied territories.

The build-up to Mr Shamir's speech on Wednesday was certainly intended to concentrate people's minds on the need for four more years of a no-nonsense leadership headed by the tough former underground leader, who shows no signs of firing of his job at the age of 76. "He is the only leader in the country who stood beside me during the tragedy of Helena's murder," Ehud Kinanov, Bat Yam's mayor, said.

To show that the Israeli leader had a heart, immigrant girls were led onto the stage with flowers for the grandfatherly figure, with one Ethiopian infant reaching up to the microphone to say: "Mr Prime Minister, thank you for bringing me to Israel. I hope you will continue to perform wonders." Up

until that moment, no one could have faulted the Likud campaign strategists, until Mr Shamir began his discourse hailing the achievements of his administration in a labourious hour-long address, which put some supporters to sleep. Mr Shamir time and again during this campaign has failed to arouse the passions of an often emotional electorate. "If we had Menachem Begin speaking here tonight we would have 300,000 people instead of 300," a lifelong Likud supporter said. Like many Israelis, he regarded the country's present leadership as a pale and unimaginative imitation of the man who not only bombed Iraq and invaded Lebanon but also succeeded in making peace with Egypt.

While Mr Shamir has shown himself to be unflappable during the campaign he can never hope to emulate Mr Begin's populist image and oratory, the sort of political attributes which could be vital in winning over an apathetic electorate.

Mr Pankov cautioned that the Soviet authorities tended to classify prisoners by ethnic group rather than by passport. Hence a US citizen of Russian or Ukrainian origin — precisely the kind of person likely to be subjected to long-term detention — might not be listed as an American.

A report to the Red Army command from an official "reparation committee" states that as of March 1, 1946 there were eight Americans, three Britons, 636 Dutch and 1,224 French among the 4,867 foreign nationals who were still in Soviet hands. A second document, dated December 1, 1946, asserts that all but one of the 22,555 American PoWs had passed through Soviet hands, and all 24,451 of the Britons, had since been repatriated.

This left only 134 foreigners, mostly Czechoslovaks and Yugoslavs, still captive. Of these, just 21 — including



Kalugin: KGB agents questioned prisoners

two Frenchmen but not the solitary American — were on Soviet soil; the others were presumably held in barracks in Poland or Germany.

Mr Pankov cautioned that the Soviet authorities tended to classify prisoners by ethnic group rather than by passport. Hence a US citizen of Russian or Ukrainian origin — precisely the kind of person likely to be subjected to long-term detention — might not be listed as an American.

Jackson to bring two tons of costumes

Michael Jackson is shipping two tons of costumes, including costumes featuring fibre-optics, lasers and explosives, to Europe for his *Dangerous* tour. Two of the outfits, which are lined with optical fibres, are 9ft tall, 7ft wide and weigh 40lb each. A computerised laser rig controls the lighting, said Michael Bush, who created the costumes with Dennis Tompkins. Jackson "describes what he envisions, and because he's so visually creative, our main goal is to bring his ideas to life", Bush said.

A seven-year-old Miami boy who sculpted a work titled *Roach Perot*, in which he pasted a photograph of the unofficial US presidential candidate, Ross Perot, on the body of a dead cockroach, has won first place in the children's division of the annual Sensational Roach Art Contest, sponsored by a company that manufactures products to kill the insects. An opinion poll suggested women trust Mr Perot less than men.

The Japanese foreign minister, Michio Watanabe, convalescing after surgery, is unlikely to attend the meeting of the G7, the group of the world's seven leading industrialised countries in Munich next month, his office said.

India's ruling Congress (I) party has named Vice-President Shankar Dayal Sharma, 74, as its candidate for next month's presidential poll.

The spiritual leader of the Lubavitch sect of Hasidic Jews, Rabbi Menachem Schneerson, 90, was taken to Mount Sinai hospital in New York after blood tests uncovered a possible internal infection. The ultra-Orthodox sect has about 100,000 followers.

Mel Gibson, 36, who consistently makes the "best-looking" lists, is to make his debut as a director and star as a disfigured man in *Man Without a Face*, which may be filmed in Maine this summer.

Police press for boycott of Batman film over Cop Killer song

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK



Taking the rap: Ice-T, whose hit has been accused of inciting young people to murder

New York police yesterday called on the public to boycott the film *Batman Returns*, which opens in America today, in protest against a rap song which they say incites young people to murder policemen.

The companies that produced *Batman Returns*, starring Michael Keaton, Michelle Pfeiffer and Danny DeVito, and the song *Cop Killer* by rapper Ice-T and his band Body Count are owned by Time Warner Inc. Police in New York state and Texas have called for a boycott of all Time Warner products until the album is removed from shops. Police say the song, which includes such lyrics as "I'm about to dust some cops off. Die, pig die", encourages and glorifies killing police.

Peter Kehoe, head of the New York sheriffs group, said: "As a direct result of this song, cops will be killed during the upcoming hot summer months while Time Warner executives sit beside their swimming pools... enjoying their ill-gotten gains." The company is defending the song on the ground of freedom of expression.

The film *Batman Returns* has itself been criticised for allegedly glorifying violence. At one point in the film, Danny DeVito, who plays the Penguin, is heard as "Burn, baby, burn," as Gotham City goes up in flames — a phrase which emerged from the Watts race riots of 1965.

Rap musicians and their supporters have come into

increasing conflict with the white establishment in recent weeks. Last Saturday, in a speech to the Rev Jesse Jackson's Rainbow Coalition, Bill Clinton, the Democratic candidate, criticised another rap singer, Sister Souljah, for what he claimed were racist remarks. He cited a newspaper interview in which Sister Souljah had said: "If black people kill black people every day, why not have a week and kill white people?"

Mr Clinton was immediately attacked for singling out a black individual in his remarks, in what some said was an attempt to appeal for white votes. At a press conference in New York on Tuesday, Sister Souljah said that Mr Clinton had "chosen not to at-

tack the issues, but a young African woman". She said her remarks had been intended to describe the attitude of young American blacks and that she did not advocate killing anyone.

Sister Souljah has in the past used rap lyrics suggesting a violent solution to the problems of black urban poverty and disillusion. In her song, *The Hate That Hate Produced*, she says: "I am black first. I want what's good for me and my people. And if my survival means your total destruction, then so be it, you built this wicked system."

Mr Clinton defended his criticism of Sister Souljah on MTV television's young people's forum channel on Tuesday night. He said: "It is never right, ever — particu-

larly for people of influence — to say there are no good people of another race, that maybe all the blacks should go kill whites for a change." He said he had received calls from a number of blacks supporting his stand against Sister Souljah.

The heightening of tension between races comes at an inauspicious moment, particularly in New York, where black community leaders have pronounced today "a day of absence" in response to the Rodney King verdict in Los Angeles. Black New Yorkers are being urged to stay away from work, school, buses, subways, telephones and shops, and to boycott white-owned businesses to demonstrate the importance of blacks to the life of the city.

Belgium
Spain
defence
memb

Aid convoy
slips into
besieged
Sarajevo

Italians to

Belgium and Spain 'query defence force membership'

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

BELGIUM and Spain are now having second thoughts about joining the Franco-German "Eurocorps", according to senior British government sources.

Both countries had indicated an interest in joining the new force which was announced by President Mitterrand of France and Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, at a summit last month. However, Spain has now been won over by the British argument that a future European defence force should be based on the nine-nation Western European Union, with each member country offering units for peacekeeping or peacekeeping roles.

Under the British proposal,

put forward recently by Malcolm Rifkind, the defence secretary, the Franco-German force could be one of these designated units. The proposal was aimed at stalling any rush by other WEU members to join the Eurocorps, yet at the same time to place the new body under the aegis of the WEU. According to the sources, Belgium has told Britain it does not want to be the only other country to join the Franco-German force.

Since Mr Rifkind's initiative, Pierre Joxe, the French defence minister, confirmed that the Eurocorps would be available for WEU operations. The WEU is likely to take on an expanded role at a meeting in Bonn today when foreign and defence ministers from its nine member states are expected to approve its peacekeeping role. European countries who are not members of the WEU will also be offered full or associate membership to bring all of Europe under the same defence and security wing.

The nine countries which are already members — which include Britain, France and Germany — will be asked to designate certain units for WEU operations. Units such as the existing Anglo-Dutch amphibious force, and the proposed multinational air mobile force (Britain, Germany, The Netherlands, and Belgium) which will be part of the new Nato rapid reaction corps, will be offered to the WEU.

A senior British official admitted yesterday that there would be a "pecking order" among the different organisations offering their peacekeeping services, with Nato likely to take on the grander operations.

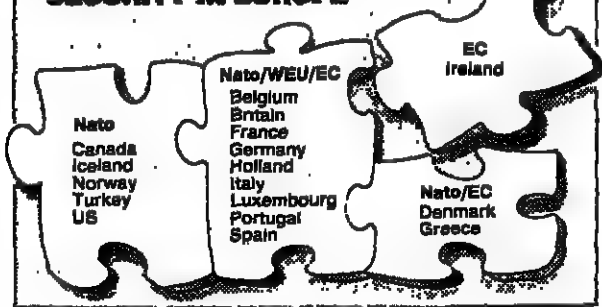
The meeting in Bonn will be the most important since the Maastricht summit when EC leaders agreed that, in the search for a common European defence policy, the WEU should represent Europe's security views. The "no" vote in the Danish referendum and the uncertainty over the Maastricht treaty does not affect the WEU, which has its own treaty.

A British official admitted there remained a "bug-off" between those, such as France, who wanted the European defence arm to come under the wing of the EC, and others, such as Britain, who preferred the institutional link to be with the WEU.

Missile plan: The British government is now "actively considering" the cost-effectiveness of developing a limited ballistic missile defence system, as an offshoot to the American GPALS (global protection against limited strikes) concept.

Leading article, page 15

SECURITY IN EUROPE



Aid convoy slips into besieged Sarajevo

FROM MARK HEINRICH IN BELGRADE

A UNITED Nations peace-keeping convoy trapped for 36 hours by fighting outside Sarajevo reached the city centre safely yesterday with 15 tonnes of food and medical aid for starving civilians.

But the peacekeepers' mission to help prepare for an influx of relief aid to 300,000 inhabitants of the Bosnian capital was impaired by the collapse of a truce between Serbian and Muslim and Croatian militiamen.

The convoy had set out from Belgrade on Tuesday,



24 hours into the precarious ceasefire, but had to race for cover behind Serbian lines on Sarajevo's outskirts when shelling broke out again that night. Fierce fighting on Wednesday confined the 47-vehicle convoy in Lukavica, outside the city. But it slipped into Sarajevo yesterday after winning safe passage.

Aboard the convoy were food and medical kits, the first UN relief supplies to reach Sarajevo since the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) evacuated its staff last month after Serb attacks on its operations.

Two UNHCR representatives returned to Sarajevo with the convoy and will try to set up a distribution network with local charitable agencies for all three ethnic communities, Laurence Jolles, a UNHCR spokesman said.

There were scattered artillery duels and street battles in Sarajevo yesterday. The UN has now put off plans to take charge of Sarajevo's airfield from Serb irregulars with a Canadian contingent to allow relief flights to the blockaded capital. (Reuters)

Letters, page 15

Italians to taste Dr Subtle's medicine

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

Giuliano Amato, the Socialist intellectual nicknamed Dr Subtle by his kinder colleagues, became Italian prime minister-designate yesterday. He acknowledged that his reputation for finesse would be tested as he tries to form a credible government.

"It will be a ship in a stormy sea," Signor Amato, 54, said after receiving the mandate from President Scalfaro to try to put together the 51st Italian government. He said the "crucial points" of the programme he plans would be dealing with the huge public expenditure deficit, the struggle against organised crime, promoting morality in public life, and institutional reforms. "I am aware of the great difficulties."

Only a convincing programme of reforms is likely to win Signor Amato crucial

support from the opposition Republicans and former communist Democratic Party of the Left, commentators said. Opposition leaders were sceptical whether the deputy Socialist Party leader would produce anything other than a reshuffled version of the coalition led by the outgoing prime minister, Giulio Andreotti, that was made up of Christian Democrats, Socialists, Liberals and Social Democrats.

President Scalfaro has told Signor Amato he should try to construct a cabinet reflecting the massive protest vote in favour of change cast by Italians against traditional parties in the April 5 and 6 general election. But the Christian Democrats and Socialists are reluctant to relinquish power.

Corriere della Sera yesterday said Signor Amato "is perhaps the Italian politician who has collected the

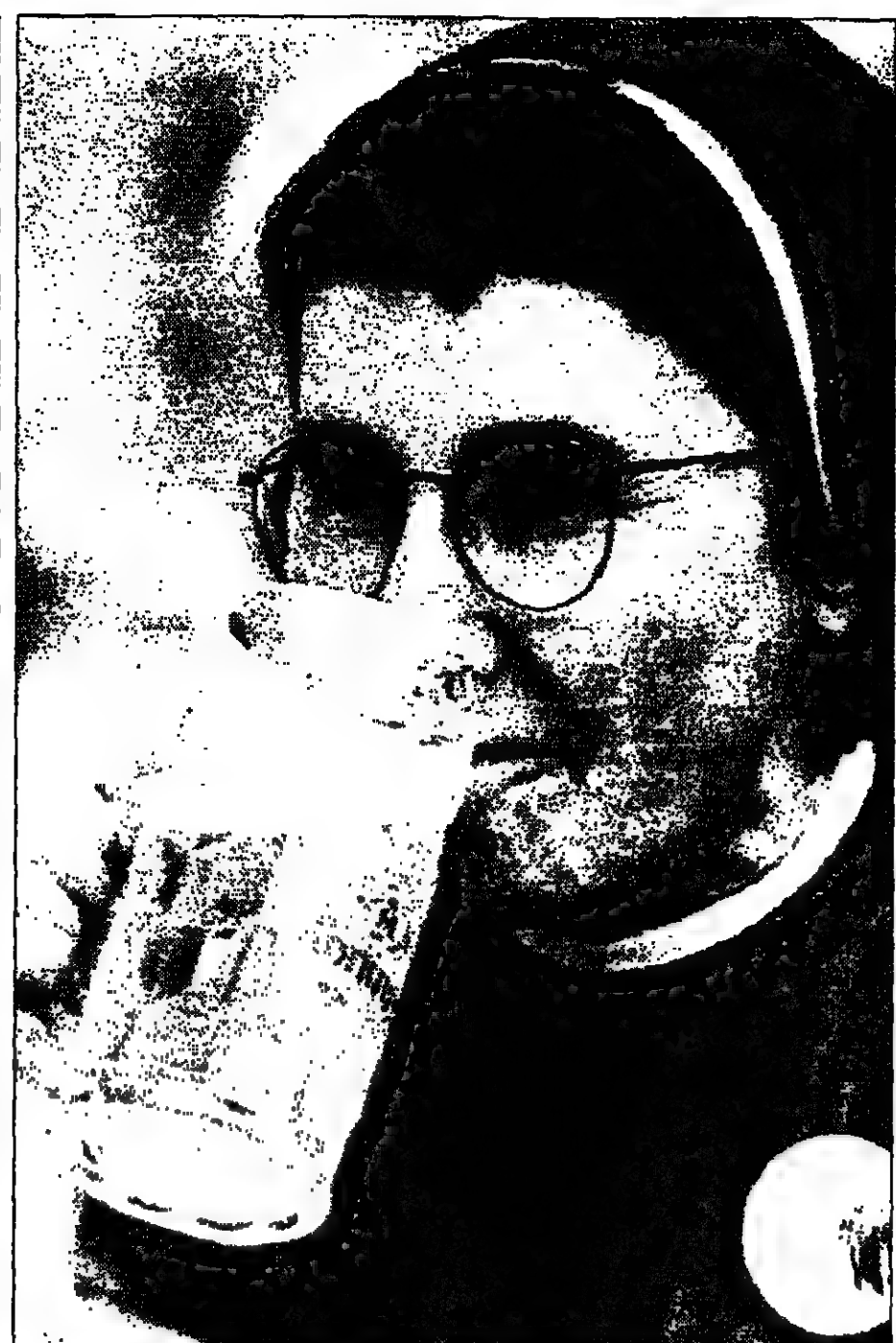
most nicknames, nearly all of them malevolent, nearly all coined by comrades from his party who do not like him too much" because of his rapid rise to influence. The only sobriquet of which he approves, the Milan daily said, is that of Dottore Sottile (Dr Subtle) attributed to him because of his reputation for smooth behind-the-scenes manoeuvres.

Signor Amato also enjoys a reputation for ruthlessness combined with a zealous honesty. La Repubblica likened him to Saint Just, the ideologue of the reign of terror during the French revolution.

He was sent to Milan earlier this year to clean up the local party branch after the eruption of a huge bribery scandal that indirectly touched the party secretary, Bettino Craxi. Critics said the purge initiated by

Signor Amato was largely symbolic. His closeness to Signor Craxi, who dropped out of the running for the prime ministership, could be a handicap in his search for a broadly based government, political experts said. Signor Amato served as cabinet undersecretary during the Craxi government in the mid-1980s. Jealous colleagues sometimes compare him to Cesareo Rossi, the ruthless personal secretary of Mussolini. Corriere della Sera noted.

Signor Amato is married with two children and speaks fluent English that he perfected while studying in America. His only known hobby is tennis, which he likes to play each Sunday. Last night he indicated that he hopes to tell President Scalfaro by tomorrow that he is ready to form a government so as not to spoil his weekend.



Brew nun: a Franciscan enjoying a beer at the opening of the 91st German Catholics' Day, held on the feast of Corpus Christi, in Karlsruhe yesterday

Danish effect eases way for Britain in Brussels

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

WHATEVER the results of yesterday's vote in Ireland on the Maastricht treaty, the European Community is being temporarily transformed by the impact of the Danish rejection of the proposals for political and economic union.

Among other striking changes, the "Danish effect" is easing several of the British government's toughest problems in Brussels.

A report on Britain's EC budget rebate has been ready for two months inside the European Commission but now seems unlikely to appear before next month. Jacques Delors, the president of the commission, delayed the report at John Major's request shortly before the British general election in April.

Now Mr Delors and other commission officials are trying to avoid rows with governments that might spoil the treaty's chances of ratification, and are looking for a politically quiet moment to release the report. "We're a bit hamstrung about what is tactically the best moment," said one official yesterday.

The report is likely to turn out to be a relatively neutral description of the workings of the discount which Britain

was allowed in the budget deal of 1988. On average, the rebate cuts Britain's £3 billion share of EC revenue to £2 billion each year. German ministers, representing the only EC government which pays in more than Britain, and suffering economic troubles, have served notice that they want to reopen the issue of Britain's payments. But given the importance of the Maastricht treaty being ratified in the Commons, and Britain's veto over any changes to the rebate, little change seems likely.

A similar reticence has seized the Commission over the divisive question of EC enlargement. Leaks from Mr Delors' entourage about his thinking on the long-term structure of a larger EC went wrong when they became an issue in the Danish referendum campaign. Since the Commission leaks confidential documents almost every day, the commissioners are now wary of writing anything down: they have decided henceforth to report to ministers on enlargement by discussing it with them in meetings. The reports will avoid controversy and constitutional change will barely be broached.

Although the Danish vote may have suppressed risky thinking in Brussels, it has opened new lines of argument elsewhere in the Community. Political establishments are waking up to the unpleasant knowledge that their claims about the vital importance of European unification are no longer accepted at face value. Nowhere does that scepticism and paternal style now pose greater risks for the Maastricht treaty than in France.

In 1989, French voters were asked by pollsters how they would feel if told that the EC was to be wound up tomorrow. Forty-five per cent said they would be either "indifferent" or "relieved". However, President Mitterrand put himself at the head of the drive towards closer monetary and political union.

Letters, page 15

Czechoslovak leaders play high-risk game

Czech and Slovak antagonists have decided to rely on poker-style brinkmanship, Roger Boyes writes

Czechs and Slovaks are slalomming towards divorce. The two political power brokers — Vaclav Klaus, the Czech, and Vladimir Meciar, the Slovak — have refused to commit themselves to a significant federal government and both seem to regard it as a mere liquidation committee to divide the assets of the 73-year-old country.

Mr Klaus, rather than head a meaningless federal government, will seek the premiership of the Czech lands. Mr Meciar is virtually assured of the premiership of Slovakia.

The problem is determining how much of this brinkmanship and tactical manoeuvre. On the surface, Mr Klaus appears to be particularly tough: his line is that if the federation cannot be saved then it must part soon. He has been deliberately stepping up the pace of negotiations, hoping the prospect of a sudden end to federal subsidies will jolt the Slovaks and sway them against independence when it comes to a referendum on the issue.

That approach has probably been co-ordinated with President Havel, who has maintained for over a year that most Slovaks do not want independence and that popular grievances are being exploited by Mr Meciar and the nationalists. The point of the talks so far has been to send alarm signals to ordinary Slovaks.

Mr Meciar is also playing a tactical game. He has set out a timetable for secession — a declaration of sovereignty by the new Slovak parliament, a Slovak constitution, a referendum on independence and finally a deal with the Czechs. He has put forward a concrete proposal: Czechs and Slovaks should have two separate states bound by economic and defence agreements.

Mr Klaus believes the Slo-

vaks are trying to have their cake and eat it: independence, but with subsidies for Slovak steel mills, the arms industry and the army units that are stationed on Slovakia's eastern frontiers.

All this poker play may be merely a ploy to a shift in the power balance between Czechs and Slovaks within the federation, or a future confederation. That is, the country could still stop short of divorce. It depends on how well the issue is managed. Mr Meciar threatens independence but may only be seeking full control of economic and social policy. Mr Klaus threatens to permit independence but only to remind Slovaks of the costs. Yet both men are nervous about going the whole way since to split Czechoslovakia is to rip the post-1918 map of Central Europe.

To avoid divorce in Czechoslovakia there needs to be a change in popular mood, not so much in Slovakia as in the Czech lands. The Czechs remain convinced that Slovakia had a good deal from the unitary state and Prague has not really come to grips with the real grievances in Bratislava. The popular view in Prague is that Mr Meciar is trying to blackmail the Czechs. But Slovaks, saddled with unremediable heavy industry, are genuine victims of a market reform that has benefited mainly the Czechs.

The Czechs may be right that Mr Meciar does not have a popular mandate for full independence, but Slovaks have charged him with the task of fundamentally reorganising the Czechoslovak federation. Mr Meciar is not particularly loved by the Slovaks but they do regard him as the man most likely to drive a hard bargain. If the Czechs want to keep Czechoslovakia together they must first recognise that Slovaks have been disadvantaged for decades.

NEWS IN BRIEF

UN hopes for accord on Cyprus

New York: The United Nations yesterday began a fresh attempt to end the 18-year division of Cyprus, with Western diplomats hopeful that agreement can be reached on the creation of a bizonal federation with a rotating presidency. (James Bone writes)

Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN secretary-general, held separate meetings yesterday with George Vassiliou, president of the internationally recognised Greek Cypriot state in the island's south, and Raul Denktash, leader of the Turkish Cypriot community in the north. Diplomats said the UN chief hoped to persuade them to meet next week for the first time in more than two years to work out a "framework" agreement.

Office bombed

Bastia: A bomb wrecked the office of a security company which had inspected a Corsican soccer stadium stand that collapsed last month, killing 15 fans. The local company director has been charged with manslaughter. (Reuters)

Pilot killed

Athens: A Greek air force pilot was killed when his Mirage F1 jet fighter crashed in the sea while trying to intercept a pair of Turkish F16 jets that had entered Greek air space, the air force announced. (AP)

Kurds arrested

Rouen: Police entered a church in Rouen and arrested 10 Kurds who had been on hunger strike for 35 days demanding political asylum in France. Witnesses said that there were some scuffles but no injuries. (AFP)

Poll date set

Taipei: Taiwan will hold a general election on December 19. The poll will be the first time the Nationalists have risked losing control of the legislature since fleeing in 1949. (Reuters)

Chief pardoned

Wellington: Mokomoko, a chief of the Whakatohea tribe, has been pardoned 126 years after he was hanged for the murder of Carl Volkner, a Dutch Anglican missionary whom the Maoris suspected of spying for Britain.

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...nally for people of influence to say there are no good reasons for the blacks who kill whites for a change. He said he had received a letter from a number of black supporters in his constituency, South London.

The background to the story is that a newspaper column, particularly in New York, where a large number of black people are, has been writing about the absence of leadership in the black community. The column has been written by a white man, and it has been written in a way that is designed to be as provocative as possible. The column has been written in a way that is designed to be as provocative as possible.

The column has been written in a way that is designed to be as provocative as possible. The column has been written in a way that is designed to be as provocative as possible. The column has been written in a way that is designed to be as provocative as possible.

John Major's missing millions

The prime minister's toughest test will be to cut spending, says Peter Riddell

When Norman Lamont put on the mantle of Stafford Cripps this week to stress how tight the review of public spending will be, it was not just the usual Treasury exercise in summer gloom to soften up the rest of Whitehall. This year is different. Ministers know that if they cannot bring public finances under control immediately after an election, they never will. More than that, Europe, the spending round will be the test of what John Major does with Mrs Thatcher's legacy.

Public borrowing has soared over the past two years, to at least £28 billion, well above the European monetary guidelines. In contrast to the early 1980s, the government has decided to allow the impact of the recession to show-up in higher borrowing. But the cabinet also agreed big increases in spending unrelated to the recession, notably on health and transport. Before the election, ministers had the guilty air of slimmers sneaking a potato and claiming it did not matter because they had kept to their diet before and would be disciplined in future.

Now the reckoning has arrived. The economy is recovering even more slowly than expected, further increasing borrowing. That makes less plausible any hopes that the budget will return to balance over the medium term or of a reversal of the rise in spending as a share of national income, from 39.5 in 1989 to more than 43 per cent. Mr Lamont has said: "no responsible government can allow recession to become an excuse for a permanent expansion in the proportion of the nation's wealth spent by the state. The growth of public expenditure cannot be divorced from the real growth of the economy, in bad times as well as good."

Mr Major has given the cabinet a homily on the need for restraint, and Michael Portillo, the chief secretary, who is reckoned to be hard-working as well as clever, had talks with departments before they put in their spending bids. So far these discussions have made little impression. In the Whitehall village, no ministers, especially those new to their departments as most are, want to be seen as giving ground to the Treasury at this stage. Existing plans for next year contain a reserve of £8 billion, but much may be absorbed by the extra costs of the recession and of easing the transition from the poll tax to the council tax.

Mr Major and the Treasury team are like characters in *Alice*, stumbling through a maze to be confronted with signs saying "hands off — manifesto pledge", "statutory commitment" or "political priority". Within the £70 billion social security budget, there has been talk of focusing benefits on the needy. But much of the programme is demanded by the number of pensioners and the unemployed. The Tories have promised to raise the value of retirement pensions and child

A WEEK IN POLITICS

benefit each year in line with inflation. In other cases, preventing abuses would require controversial legislation. There will be no repetition of last year's big rise in the health budget, although the Tory manifesto promised a year by year increase in real resources committed to the NHS.

Even reform is expensive. Encouraging more schools to opt out of local authority control adds to costs. Short-term pressures are also increased by the targets for cutting hospital waiting-lists and compensation schemes for delays in services, as enshrined in the Citizen's Charter, which is due to be reviewed at a Downing Street seminar today. Improving public services is not cheap, although contracting-out should produce long-term savings.

The Treasury always has its list of potential cuts, such as defence, transport and training. Whitehall running costs — mainly pay — may also be squeezed, although this yields less when inflation is already low. Tax reliefs on mortgages and pensions offer large potential savings, but are hard to tackle given the current state of the housing market.

To reverse the rise in borrowing, Mr Lamont may have to look to taxes: not raising tax allowances in line with inflation, or broadening the indirect tax base. This is the last year when both sides of the equation are decided separately, for in a welcome announcement in the Budget, Mr Lamont said that from December 1993 tax and spending plans would be presented together.

None of the choices is easy. Departmental interests will matter more than the ideology of ministers. Thus so-called Thatcherite ministers such as Michael Howard and Peter Lilley, who head vast spending departments, will be trying mainly to contain unavoidable increases in spending, whereas Michael Heseltine, despite his more interventionist reputation, has already lowered expectations by saying he is not seeking "any significant change" in trade and industry spending. Even with the addition of energy, his department's budget is less than that for overseas development. He is likely to tinker and repack some programmes.

The outcome will finally depend on Mr Major himself. As prime minister, he has so far sought not to offend, and to please as many groups as possible. But he must accept some unpopularity now if public finances are to be put in order. The twin strands of his career have been the Treasury minister's preference for sound finance, and the whip's instincts for conciliation. This summer he needs to think as a Treasury man rather than as a whip.

Matthew d'Ancona wonders if a change of name will really bring polytechnics university status

Donnish delusions

an empire is in political history," he wrote in *The Idea of a University* (1852), "such is a university in the sphere of philosophy and research. It is... the high protecting power of all knowledge and science, of fact and principle, of inquiry and discovery."

In Newman's humanistic vision, the role of the university was to train the mind of the governing classes and tend the intellectual soul of the nation. And that vision has kept its grip on the collective imagination. Why else would John Major be so sensitive about his lack of university education, or the Opposition leader below that he was the first Kinnock to graduate "in a thousand generations"?

Just as the polytechnics exemplify all that is modern, sleek and efficient, the universities have a mystique rooted in the dimly-remembered past. The bond of which Newman wrote between power and intellect is as old as the privileges granted to medieval

scholars by their rulers. For an ambitious family in the middle ages, setting up a dynastic university was de rigueur. Charles IV, a terrible show-off, shored up his imperial power in 1348 with the foundation of Prague University, which the rival Habsburgs soon matched in Vienna. Cosseted by the rich and famous, the universities developed their own agenda and authority, and even challenged the papacy head-on in the great 15th-century councils. Thus the continent of Europe was knitted together by its intellectual community. Measured against the power of the medieval schools, especially Oxford and Paris, Jacques Delors's ambitions for Europe are modest indeed.

Such pretensions to greatness die hard. In England, the ancient universities have from time to time taken on the authorities and won; and the glimmering array of politicians at the vice-chancellors' reception in Westminster last week

showed that the universities still have a finger's grip on the reins of power. With this archaic tradition, the polytechnics will struggle to compete.

The universities have glamour in spades, too. E.M. Forster struck a chord when he admitted that memories of Cambridge, his "dear old university", inspired in him only "snobbery or priggishness". Snooty tales of high-table rows, of Somerville girls battling against co-education, and of radical French philosophers opposed by crusty dons still go down a treat with the educated Englishman.

Provincial universities like Sussex, meanwhile, have discovered and cultivated a different kind of raciness, an image of progressive affluence mythologised in a string of campus novels. There is always a redbrick in vogue which sixth-form poets will head for.

If a university were simply a worthy institution which dished out degrees and supervised re-

search, the task ahead of the polys would be easy. But the word carries much deeper resonances. Universities are expected by the nation to embody tradition, to flirt with church and state, to be oracular as well as expert. Such characteristics cannot be bolted on by legislation, however well-intentioned.

The polytechnics were supposed originally to provide an entirely new form of higher education, forging the technological infrastructure that British industry still lacks. Instead, they have slowly drifted into the academic territory of the university, quite unnecessarily relegating themselves to second-class status.

Now, in the vast pool of universities, they may come unstuck, stripped of their distinctiveness, struggling always to be something else. Ministers are already murmuring darkly that the polys have absurd expectations of the research funds they are likely to win in the new educational marketplace. The great divide may be gone, but the hierarchy will soon reassert itself. The polys may then ask themselves whether the fancy names were worth the bother.

Maxwell's young lions

What makes Ian and Kevin tick, wonders Peter Millar



er, also linked through to his father's, so it was also possible for Maxwell to retreat to it either to confer privately with his son during a meeting, or through it to gain access to his private life and escape the building, leaving his guests to stew until some flunky made appropriate excuses.

Maxwell's office at the other side of the octagonal tower, with a fine view over the gothic pinnacles of the law courts, a serene calm shrouded twice daily by the clattering rotor blades of his father's helicopter landing on the roof a dozen feet above his head. Ian had a pair of his own

secretaries, in whom he inspired a loyalty that was to extend beyond disaster. When, after Robert Maxwell's death, the edifice started to collapse, there was a temporary lull as the sons won a breathing space from creditors: there was a marvellous wave of relief from the younger Maxwell's staff, who, like their bosses, had sat around for years wondering when, if ever, they would come into the ogre's inheritance.

Yet in a year of working closely with the Maxwell family, I never saw signs of any feeling for their

father other than affection, albeit beneath an often palpable tension. When his father died, Ian certainly was deeply moved. Whatever cynics may say with hindsight, and whatever horrors have been uncovered about Robert Maxwell's business practices, his death left an enormous physical and psychological void in lives lived close to his overweening presence.

It was to escape that presence that his older children opted to live in the United States, a continent away and therefore at least out of bearhugging reach. In their father's lifetime, Ian and Kevin, for all the heir-apparent responsi-

bilities seemingly divested on to them, were inevitably thought to be waiting in the wings. They lived under a giant shadow, and who could tell which was the dauphin and which the Prince of Wales?

In the White Hart, the *Daily Mirror* drinking den, hardened hacks who caught a glimpse of Ian or Kevin entering Maxwell House opposite would tug a forelock and make Uriah Heep references to the "young master". The brothers occasionally glanced through the window, but they rarely ventured in; fraternisation — below a certain level — was frowned upon. Life as a Maxwell, under Bob, meant never being able to say "sorry". To those who dealt with him on a daily basis, Ian Maxwell's greatest sin was retelling his father's anecdotes and expecting — as Bob did — the same gust of laughter every time.

When Maxwell died and the theoretical division of the soon-to-vanish spoils allotted to Ian and Maxwell Communications to Kevin, Ian began signing letters "The Publisher" and appearing in his father's multicoloured bow-ties. It was as if the only way to exorcise the ghost was to emulate his fashion sense.

Ian had inherited more than Kevin of their father's gift for tongues. With a French mother it was unsurprising that most of the family professed bilingualism, though it was not always perfect. Ian, however, switched easily into and out of French, and was fond of dropping German phrases into conversations with those who understood them. Kevin, on the other hand, was shy about using other languages, preferring to pass on the role of toastmaster for a delegation from the German publisher, Bertelsmann Verlag, even though he had been involved in its part-purchase. His gift was for doing sums: Ian's was for shaking hands and speaking in tongues.

How far either will now serve them is in the hands of the courts. I am simply glad I never had to take a school report card home to their father.

Bernard Levin's column returns on Monday.

...and moreover ALAN COREN

The only time I lunched with the Queen, the first words she said to me were: "Have you any idea what a trial it is to own a golf course?"

I do not remember what I mumbled, but I do remember reflecting that when it came to preemptive strikes, my sovereign left Admiral Yamamoto at the post. I had turned up at her palace with my conversational fleet dressed overall, there was not a potential topic I had not buffed to shimmering nick, there was not a drollery unpruned, but she had dived on me out of the sun, and her first wave had devastated me: my battleships were going down by the stern, my carriers were ablaze, and where my submarines had once lurked there were now but pitiable patches of flotsam-dotted oil.

She then launched, while the prawn hung trembling on my fork, into a hilarious account of the shenanigans at her Windsor links, where a demarcation dispute between groundsmen and gardeners had left the fairways unown. When she had finished, she asked my advice as to her best course of action. I put the prawn down and mumbled something else, drawn this time from my vast experience of owning golf courses, whereupon she said: "Was there an exact date when workmen stopped wearing boots? You never see boots on workmen any more."

The whole of, let us call it our conversation, followed this bizarre, unpatterned, the monarch unfalteringly displaying a sur-

real penchant so relentlessly nimble it left the clothopper winded. It was like going ten rounds against a class flyweight trained by René Magritte and managed by P.G. Wodehouse. By the end of three hours, I had pledged my life to her. Here was weakness of an order so incomparable it must have been hers by divine right. She was barking regal.

Her husband? I had first met him some years before, when as Rector of St Andrews I attended the investiture of Magnus Magnusson as Rector of Edinburgh, where Prince Philip was Chancellor. We were all in the robing room, struggling into our floor-length velvet numbers, when the Consort suddenly cried: "If we were stark naked under these, nobody would be any the wiser!" He then laughed for a very long time.

It thus came as no surprise to me when, soon after, their son stopped doing Bluebottle impressions and began confiding in flora, leaving me with a conviction rendered all the more unshakable by the Princess Royal, who when I invited her to a Punch lunch and apologised for limping on a swollen knee, said: "Yes, it's been a ghastly year for equine VD. Did you know it can cause rheumatoid arthritis in jockeys? Everyone's taking phenylbutazone."

What am I trying to tell you here? Merely that I have been growing daily more irritated by demands for the Royal Family to shape up, remember who they are, and behave accordingly.

because my view is that is precisely what they are doing. They are a very odd lot, and they stand in a long and remarkably impressive line of highly peculiar figures of whom this country ought never to cease for one instant to be proud.

Hitherto, we have cherished them for this astonishing distinction, Edward II, Richard III, Henry VIII, Elizabeth I, Charles II, George III and IV, Edward VII and VIII — and I pick only the royal tree's fruitier plums, the ones we relish most for their egregious lusts and vagaries and misdemeanours, for even the dullest have had their moments, be it George V's terminal injunction to buster Bognor, or that exercise of Victoria's remarkable libido which, indulging itself at Windsor, could rattle windows in Cardiff.

So why are we distressed now at what delighted us before? Whence this nonsense requiring the current lot to be moral exemplars and behavioural models, because if they won't, then it is all up with them? They have never been anything of the sort; what they have been is a collection of flaky English eccentrics beyond the dreams of Ealing Studios, as thankfully unlike their subjects as it is possible to be. Oh, yes, we may rightly tremble at the thought that we might find ourselves married to one, but candidates have had a thousand years to be warned, and if in doubt, Sellar and Yeatman are a quick and easy read.

Maxwell's immortality

IF the arrest of Ian and Kevin Maxwell yesterday sounded the death knell of a global empire, the family can find solace in the fact that their name still carries weight in academe. Balliol, the Oxford alma mater of Sir Edward Heath, Lord Jenkins and Bryan Gould, will continue to offer the Robert Maxwell Fellowship for politics in perpetuity.

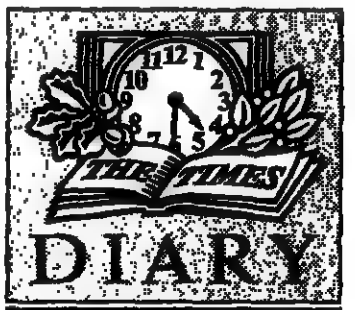
The fellowship, which was endowed by Maxwell in 1965 just a year after he became Labour member for Buckingham, has strong sentimental value for his surviving kin, many of whom have attended the college at one time or another. Philip, the eldest son, took a scholarship to Balliol, as did Ian. So too did Kevin, who met his wife Pandora Warrford-Davis at college. The tradition continued when Ghislaine, Maxwell's favourite and the only child whose photograph hung on the wall behind his desk, took her place at what many at the university jokingly called Maxwell College.

The current holder of the fellowship, Adam Swift, son of the author Margaret Drabble, was keeping his council in Oxford yesterday. "I was not even born when the post was endowed, and I have nothing to say."

The college is understood to have no plans to change the fellowship, although Swift's credibility on the international academic scene is unlikely to be enhanced by such a sobriquet.

Buyer and cellar

AS THE fraud squad and the liquidators of the Maxwell empire battle to replenish the depleted pension funds, one liquid asset which Robert Maxwell disposed of



is close to being restored. When he was chairman of the Commons catering committee, Maxwell sold off the famous House wine cellar to try to reduce the deficit in the catering department. Now, almost 25 years after the last jeroboam was sold, the cellar is being re-stocked.

Colin Shepherd, Tory MP for Hereford and current chairman of the committee, says no bottles will be uncorked for five years. "After much searching, we eventually found a suitable spot for the cellar, and ceremoniously placed the first bottle inside," says Shepherd. By a twist of fate, the ceremony took place on November 5 last year, and was interrupted by one of Shepherd's officials brandishing a copy of that night's newspaper, with the dramatic headline "Maxwell lost at sea".

Poll attacks

TORY MP Emma Nicholson probably wishes she had followed Labour's example and waited until the election outcome was known before conducting a post mortem. Before the votes were counted, she recorded an interview for ITN on the assumption that the Tories had lost. While displaying undying loyalty to John Major, she is said to have been less than complimentary about the style of

the campaign and, in particular, about the prime minister's soapbox. ITN says "It was to have been shown only if Labour won. The material is confidential. It may be that Emma Nicholson herself has asked us not to release it." Nicholson, MP for Devon West and Torridge, says: "I gave interviews to both the BBC and ITN, neither of which was used. But neither was uncomplimentary about John Major." In which case, he may be seen to see them for himself.

Beastly business

THE 6,000 animal lovers who fork out thousands of pounds a year to sponsor animals at London Zoo are likely to hear what is to happen to their adopted dung beetles and wood ants in the next week or so. As employees who face redundancy were meeting to discuss saving the zoo, its directors

in sponsoring a keeper



were thrashing out the sponsorship problem. A representative says: "Our sponsors pay for the animals for a year, and we are very concerned that they should be treated fairly." Sponsorship may continue for animals that find new homes, but one which will be looking for a new sponsor whatever happens is Jake, the Asiatic lion. He was adopted by the *Daily Mirror*, which is currently looking for a sponsor itself.

Tactful voting

TERRY WOGAN, one of the Garick Club's newest members, was proudly sporting the distinctive club bow-tie at the Ireland Fund of Great Britain's midsummer ball on Wednesday night. While he was championing the yes vote in the Irish referendum, he was coy about next month's vote on admitting women to the Garick. "I'm very new. I don't expect they'll let me vote, and I wouldn't presume to say what should happen," he said, clearly aware of the possibility of being ostracised before he has found the snooker room.

A fellow abstainer will be one of the club's oldest members, George Malcolm Thomson, now 92, former political secretary to Lord Beaverbrook. "I feel that an old man like me should not play a part in considering the conditions of the future for younger people," he says. "But I won't fall down in a faint of horror at meeting some charming person in the bar."

● Tony O'Reilly, chairman of Heinz and one of America's highest paid executives, has not forgotten his Irish roots. As his fellow countrymen went to the polls yesterday, he was confidently predicting a victory for the yes campaign. "Ireland has benefited greatly from its membership of the EC," says O'Reilly, who in 1980 gained a doctorate in agricultural marketing from Bradford University. "The thesis dealt with poverty in Ireland before its membership of the EC. It's a very dull read, but there's a germ of an idea in it." His money is on a two-to-one vote in favour of the treaty. "Ireland we have a man called Pat O'Connor. Pat O'Connor who is able to vote twice. I'm sure he will have been out in force at the referendum."



LESSONS FOR LABOUR

The old adage that oppositions do not win elections, governments lose them, was starkly disproved in April. The government had little going for it: the economy was in recession, voters were expressing their discontent to pollsters and there was a widespread feeling that it was time for a change. Yet it was Labour that lost. Indeed, Labour has actively lost every election since 1974, except perhaps for 1987, when the Tories won at the height of a boom. Is Labour at last learning lessons from these defeats?

Judging by the run-up to yesterday's National Executive Committee post-mortem, some members are busy blaming everything in sight apart from the true culprit, John Prescott, one of the deputy leadership candidates, accused Labour's election campaign of having been "a complete mess". Actually, it was rather better than the Tory campaign. The "Jennifer's car" broadcast and the Sheffield rally may have been mistakes, but they hardly cost Labour the election. If voters had really wanted to elect a Labour government they would have done so regardless.

Tony Benn, typically, attacked Labour's reluctance to call for cuts in defence spending and its acceptance of some Tory anti-trade union laws. Nobody who spent four weeks canvassing for Labour during the campaign could possibly agree with Mr Benn's prognosis. Meanwhile Clare Short blamed the party's "glitz", a sideways attempt to criticise Labour's PR advisers. They were only messengers, doing the best they could with a message that was badly out of date. They do not deserve to be shot.

Larry Whitty, Labour's general secretary, came closer to the real problem. Many people who had intended during the campaign to vote Labour simply could not bring themselves to do so in the privacy of the polling booth. Their unease, said his report to the NEC, "reflects a much more serious concern about the Labour party as a party of the past, and one which holds back aspirations and tends to turn the clock back". Also to blame was "a general distrust of the party and its leadership".

The leadership is about to change. In a

month's time, John Smith will take over. So far he has kept his head down while all around him have been losing theirs. Amid the bitter recriminations from many of the stiffer members of the party and the calls for a radical shake-up of the party from the more forward-looking MPs, Mr Smith has said little. If he is to be the leader capable of winning the next election rather than the last, he must, once in the job, do what his young Turks have been urging.

Most important is to disengage the Labour party from the trade unions. It is perhaps understandable in the run-up to this leadership election — probably the last in which they will have a direct say — that Mr Smith has been coy about plans to break the link. But even trade union members are starting to ask their leaders what the point of such a close relationship is. If it prevents Labour from winning office, it delivers no benefit to the unions or their members. The unions themselves would be better off were they to adopt the same posture as private companies do to the Tories: to forget about wielding power in the party, but to support it financially in the recognition that they would be better off under a Labour government.

If Labour becomes a democratic, one-member-one-vote party, it can begin to cultivate more widespread support. Like American Democrats, Labour has made the mistake of trying to woo minority groups in the hope of building an arithmetic majority. Yet people are no longer interested in the politics of class or conflict, as witnessed by the finding that a majority of manual working-class voters did not vote in April for the party that was supposed to espouse their interests.

The sooner Labour can shake off the chains that bind it to special interests — trade unions, the public sector, council tenants — the sooner it can become a party attractive to people of all backgrounds, who share its broad values. Only then will it have a chance of winning. Mr Smith may not be a natural radical. But he is an intelligent man. He must realise that such changes are needed if he is not to be condemned to the Opposition benches for the rest of his political life.

IN DEFENCE OF EUROPE

Nothing was more muddled in the Maastricht treaty than the clauses on a common European defence policy. They were a fuzzy attempt to reconcile the Anglo-Italian proposals for a Western European Union organically linked to Nato and French wishes for a European defence independent of the United States. Today the WEU meets to translate this ill-defined bridge between the European Community and Nato into practical policy. Thanks largely to the British, it will adopt a policy that gives it a coherent role in the defence of Europe, allaying American suspicions while fessing a threatened conflict over the Franco-German corps.

The WEU is to open its doors immediately to Greece, Denmark and Ireland, the latter as an observer. It will also offer associate membership to Turkey, Norway and Iceland. Nato countries that are not part of the EC. This will not only make its membership continuous with that of the Community; it also balances the interests of Turkey and Greece, assuring both that neither can invoke the obligation of fellow members to come to its defence if attacked by the other.

The meeting in Bonn today will also agree that the WEU, like Nato, can operate out of area. Acting unanimously, the 52-member Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe or the Security Council will be able to call on either body to help to deal with a military emergency — Nato, to counter international aggression, or the WEU for more localised European conflicts. This is the clear result of Europe's failure to respond adequately to the start of the fighting in Yugoslavia last year, when America was reluctant to get involved and there was no mechanism to enable Western Europe to send troops to Slovenia or Croatia.

The WEU and Nato have also absorbed the lessons of the Gulf war. The need is greater than ever for collective defence to deal with threats other than a Soviet strike. The West has now formalised the kind of arrangements that enabled it, under American leadership, to put together a fighting force to confront Saddam Hussein. The potential roles — peacekeeping, peace-making, humanitarian relief and combat — have been properly defined. So too have the mechanisms for invoking military action, the political decision-making and the chain of command. The response to a conflict such as Yugoslavia will always be ad hoc. At least now the framework for an adequate response has been established.

Today's meeting will also be important for clarifying the role of the Franco-German corps. This, more than anything else, roused suspicions in America. Washington was always ambivalent about the WEU, agreeing intellectually on the need for a European pillar to Nato but reacting emotionally against its practical definition. Washington has been persuaded that the WEU, within a Nato framework, has a valid separate role. But the Franco-German corps was seen especially as a Trojan horse. An inspired speech by Malcolm Rifkind, the defence secretary, showed the way out of this dilemma. Let the corps continue, he suggested, as one of the formations on which the WEU could draw, along with such long-established units as the UK-Dutch amphibious force.

Defining the roles of Nato and the WEU is essential, whatever the future of Maastricht. The WEU, long written off as a talking shop, is now poised to play a proper role at a time when military tensions in the Balkans and Eastern Europe are likely to increase.

DOCTOR ON CALL

The image of the family doctor turning out at all times in all weathers to bring medical succour to the sick is an enduring one. It is also fast on the way to becoming a myth. Present-day Dr Finlays can now close their casebooks when they shut the front door behind them at an evening. And they can sleep through to morning, having sub-contracted night duty to a so-called deputising service.

General practitioners fought hard against becoming mere employees of the National Health Service at its inception in 1948. Self-interest came into this, but so did the honourable professional principle that a family doctor's first duty should be to his patient not to an employer. As a token of this dedication GPs gladly accepted a duty to deliver treatment 24 hours a day, turning out at any time of night if necessary.

Not so gladly now, it seems. Polls among GP members of the British Medical Association earlier this year showed more than two thirds wanted to end the out-of-hours obligation completely. While calling a doctor out in the middle of the night would still be possible, the call would be taken by one of a panel of doctors employed specially for that purpose, and almost certainly a stranger to the patient.

oversight of a superior, and in prestige, of being a self-employed professional. Patients will quickly become aware, however, that their GP has set a limit on what was previously an unqualified and open-ended relationship. Even if unspoken, doctors will be conveying to their patients that "what happens to you after six o'clock is no concern of mine". That drastically alters the relationship before six o'clock — and from the patient's point of view, not for the better.

If GPs can continue to uphold the principle of continuity of care, there is room for compromise over the practical difficulties of taking time off. Family doctors are allowed some nights off, but not every night. It is their responsibility to ensure cover is available by appointing (and paying for) other doctors to stand in. But while they receive an attendance allowance of £45 if they answer a night home call, they get only £15 (probably less than they have to pay a deputy) if they do not make the call themselves. This imbalance is designed to discourage the use of a deputising service. But it seems a wide disparity and it could be narrowed.

At present GPs are not allowed to make themselves unavailable to their patients out of hours below a certain minimum number of hours, a figure which is set locally according to national guidelines. While continuing to hold them professionally responsible for the medical care of their patients for 24 hours a day, therefore, the number of times they are allowed to employ a deputy could well be raised. Ministers are signalling that they are prepared to think along these pragmatic lines, which would leave the essence of the family doctor-patient relationship intact. Doctors would be unwise to demand more.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Yugoslavia: time for direct action

From Mr Calum Macdonald, MP for the Western Isles (Labour), and others

Sir, The comprehensive sanctions imposed on Serbia are to be welcomed but may, in their effect, be ambivalent. Sanctions have never been shown to work quickly and effectively in the past, and it is unlikely they will do so now, unless they are accompanied by other measures to express the international will to halt current Serbian government policy.

The moral need for an immediate end to the present horror in Bosnia, and the continuing policy of "ethnic cleansing" in Croatia, is clear. The Serbian government has actively instigated the infliction of terror and massacre upon the peoples of Croatia and Bosnia in turn. A delegation from the British section of the International Society of Human Rights returned from these countries on May 29; their detailed report on the atrocities by the Serbian forces makes unrelenting reading.

The dark realities of the world of the 1990s are brought back to mind when we read that the Yugoslavian army and the Serbian militia in the town of Bosanski Samac had marked all the houses of non-Serb citizens with white signs so that they could be subject to looting by the militia. Non-Serbs were forced to wear white armbands and were only allowed in public for ten minutes each day. The earlier report of the EC monitors in Croatia painted a similarly gruesome picture.

We need to appreciate also that Western interests are involved. The future stability of the whole of Europe is endangered if we allow this policy of "ethnic cleansing" and the blatant revanchism of Serbia to continue for a day longer.

Of course, it is clear to us that neither British, American or European public opinion would at present support military operations on the ground in the old Yugoslavia by forces from the Western democracies. However, other actions should now be taken to enforce the will of the international community.

The time is past due for an aircraft carrier force to be deployed in the Adriatic. If this had been done before last Christmas, the beautiful historic town of Dubrovnik would have been saved from the terrible bombardment which she is suffering. Regular air patrols should also be made to ensure that the Serbian airforce is grounded and that all heavy artillery bombardment, whether by land or by sea, ceases.

We believe that the menace and motivation of the Serbian irregular and regular forces are, in fact, extremely low and that the above measures would suffice to end the present reign of terror. A lower level of violence might persist but it would be on a much diminished scale.

In the name of humanity, and for the sake of peace in an increasingly volatile post-Cold war environment, we beg the governments of the Western states to act forcibly and to act now before it is too late for Croatia, for Bosnia and for Europe.

Yours faithfully,
CALUM MACDONALD,
DAVID ALTON (Lib Dem),
MICHAEL COLVIN (C),
PATRICK CORMACK (C),
NORMAN GODMAN (Lab),
RUSSELL JOHNSTON (Lib Dem),
House of Commons,
June 17.

France's other face

From Miss Lindsay Boswell

Sir, What a relief to hear how dreadful life in Gascony is (Mrs Eaton's letter, June 15). With Barry Turner's evocative descriptions of English Gascon life in *Life & Times* over the past fortnight I had feared that our beautiful and friendly corner of southwest France would be swamped by those English who believe that, just because they want to live life cheaply in France (educate their children at their neighbours' expense, complain that French builders are expensive, bore their French neighbours with their incompetent French), the French should love them.

Let us hope that only those who can really enjoy French country living will be tempted by Mr Turner to buy houses in Gascony, and that the English who can fall out of love so easily stay in England.

Yours faithfully,
LINDSAY BOSWELL,
4 Pump Court, Temple, EC4.

Rough judgment

From Sir Frederick Lawton

Sir, Now that Bernard Levin ("Justice seen to be done", June 15) has lost his fear of being committed to prison for criticising judges, if he ever had any, I shall read his future strictures of them with even more pleasure than I have done in the past. But he must get his facts right and learn the elements of the law relating to the jurisdiction of the Court of Appeal. His article was defective in both respects. He said:

Again and again the Court of Appeal got it wrong — hopelessly, scandalously and increasingly wrong — while innocent men and women dragged out decades of prison because these wretched boobies were simply not up to their jobs.

What has been overlooked amidst all the criticisms of the part played by the judges in the worrying series of events which have led to the quash-

Delors and his role in the Community

From Dr Richard Mayne

Sir, Distaste for the vision of the European Community's future ascribed to M Jacques Delors may be understandable on an island still partly aloof from continental concerns. But it should not be allowed to distort understanding of how the Community's institutions work (leading article, June 16).

No president of the European Commission will ever be only "a humble and civil servant", because the Commission is not and never has been "an arm of the ministerial council". It has always been, under the Treaty of Rome, an independent body entrusted with identifying and promoting the interests of the Community as a whole, as distinct from the sum of the national interests of its member states.

In this capacity, it proposes policies for decision by the Council of Ministers, mediates between governments, acts as a watchdog of the treaty (and tipstaff for the Court of Justice), is answerable to the European Parliament, and may be charged by the Council with the execution of detailed decisions.

The Commission is not "a disinterested centre of power", nor has the Council "had to set up a separate secretariat" to counterbalance it — it has had one since 1952.

Yes, the president of the Commission is at present unelected: he and his colleagues are appointed, jointly, by the elected representatives of the member states. If the Commission president were to be elected, it would not doubt be by universal suffrage or by the European Parliament. This would please many long-standing "Europeans" like myself: but how would "Euro-sceptics" react?

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD MAYNE,
Albany Cottage,
24 Park Village East,
Regent's Park, NW1,
June 17.

From the Assistant Director General, Secretariat of the EC Council of Ministers
Sir, You state in your editorial that "the Council of Ministers has had to

Corridors of leisure

From Mr Keith Simpson

Sir, Sir Robert Rhodes James ("Power and the politician's pen", June 13) has written an eloquent article questioning whether Parliament will ever again boast great men of letters.

It prompted me to consider the equally interesting question of whether there has been any change in the reading habits of MPs. Undoubtedly political biographies and histories would be high on any list, with perhaps political novels; but what do MPs read to relax?

David Lloyd George relied upon his "shilling shockers", either detective or "wild West" stories. At one point in the 1930s he told his secretary that early in the war he discovered that all his cabinet colleagues — apart from Kitchener who did not read much — were reading detective stories to get their minds off the war.

'Opt-in' schools

From Mr R. J. Dennien

Sir, You may be interested to know that there are a number of independent schools that are effectively "opted-in" already; though our option is into a working relationship with existing local education authorities, not away from them.

As an independent special school with a commitment to provide places for pupils whose needs have been statutorily recognised (in our case dyslexic ones) and whose many peers serve children and our needs lie beyond the capacity of the maintained sector. We are, therefore, highly selective.

At a recent meeting with governors

Foot fault

From Mr M. J. Brown

Sir, The answers to "Word-watching" on June 12 state that a pattern is "an overshoe or sandal, formerly worn by women to increase their stature, for the same reasons of vanity that high heels and stilettos are worn today".

That was not the reason they were worn in the countryside. There they were used to keep long skirts and petticoats clear of muddy roads and paths.

My grandmother wore patterns to

set up a separate secretariat" in order to counter the "centre of power" allegedly created by M Delors at the European Commission.

As I started my career in this secretariat more than 30 years ago and had to wait for the arrival of M Delors in Brussels for about 25 years you can imagine my surprise caused by your editorial.

Forever keen on helping the press and the public at large to arrive at the best understanding possible of Brussels machinery.

I remain, Sir, yours truly,
G. VAN DONGEN,
Assistant Director General,
General Secretariat,
Council of Ministers of the
European Communities,
Rue de la Loi 170,
1048 Brussels,
June 16.

From Mrs Sian Flynn

Sir, Rather than championing the cause of M Delors for another term at the helm of the EC the government should consider advancing the name of Sir Robin Butler, secretary of the cabinet and head of the home civil service, for the post.

At a stroke his appointment would put the Commission into the proper relationship with the Council of Ministers and the elected European Parliament and allow the Euro-train to roll forward at a measured and orderly speed, rather than the current breakneck rush, with its ever-present risk of derailment.

Yours faithfully,
SIAN FLYNN,
Kiwane Lodge, Valley End,
Chobham, Woking, Surrey,
June 15.

From Mr C. L. Day

Sir, With Jacques Delors expected to be re-elected by default, has anyone considered proposing another experienced politician who might be available: the recently ennobled Mrs Thatcher?

Yours faithfully,
CHRIS DAY,
18 Swanswell Drive,
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire,
June 14.

Churchill was a voracious reader, and during the second world war was always eager to read the latest C. S. Forester novel. Harold Macmillan, of course, preferred to read and re-read Trollope and Jane Austen, although there may have been an element of studied nonchalance in his very public withdrawals to read these novels during his time at No 10.

As the Conservative parliamentary candidate for Plymouth Devonport during the recent general election I found the novels of Raymond Chandler a good diversion at the end of a long day of canvassing. I also dipped into a fascinating study of the Lloyd George coalition government of 1918-22; it confirmed all my worst suspicions about doing electoral deals with the Liberals.

Yours faithfully,
KEITH SIMPSON,
5 Winchfield Court, Pale Lane,
Winchfield, Hampshire,
June 13.

I was asked what would happen to these pupils if LEAs were to be dismantled. Lacking a crystal ball (or Mr Patten's ear) I could not give a clear response. All I can hope is that the new Department for Education has plans to provide centrally for those children who have that statutory protection. If so we might then be "opted-in" to a central system, but not because we were "struggling", as your report of June 3 suggests ("Hard-hat private boarding schools want to 'opt in'", but because we were seen to meet a need not met elsewhere).

Yours faithfully,
ROGER DENNIEN (Headmaster),
Northeast Manor School,
Lewes, Sussex.

cross the Buckinghamshire fields to church before 1900. In a village church near Sherborne there is a notice requiring that patters be removed and left in the porch. I have always assumed that was to keep the church clean and not a call to put away vain things.

Ladies' fashions are not, of course, solely dictated by vanity.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL BROWN,
The Master's House,
The Common,
Chorleywood, Hertfordshire,
June 15.

He should also remember that what is said by the witnesses called as part of any fresh evidence may not be true. The judges who hear it are more likely to assess it correctly than those who were not in court and did not hear the judgment setting out the reasons for rejection.

The recent disturbing miscarriages of justice were not caused, as Bernard Levin suggests, by the alleged inadequacies of the judges but, as our forebears before 1907 appreciated, by the fact that an appellate jurisdiction is probably incompatible with trial by jury.

The Court of Appeal can, save on legal grounds, set aside juries' verdicts and make its own assessment of the facts, there seems little point in having trial by jury.

Yours truly,
FREDERICK LAWTON,
1 The Village, Skelton, York,
June 15.

'Once more upon the waters ...'

From the Chief Executive of Thames Water

Sir, Your leader today, "Dry beds, muddy waters", is unfairly directed. We have done everything in our power to ease the Darent river's burden, by voluntarily reducing our pumping now to the level the National Rivers Authority demands by September 1, 1992. We have brought part of the London water ring main into operation early to help meet the area's water demands.

The dry parts of the Darent are mainly a result of drought, not the amount of water we must abstract from the river or from the aquifers that feed it. Beneath the Darent is a large and healthy source of good water for the 200,000 people we serve in the area. Drought has depleted the water table, naturally, as it has done a number of times over the years. Several good winter rains are needed to raise it to ground level once more and restore the beautiful river.

But there is nothing Thames Water or the NRA — can do that will restore the Darent this summer. Meanwhile Thames Water must stick firmly to its first duty, to supply customers with water.

We do indeed have full reservoirs, the result of careful management of our resource during the worst drought this century. Unhappily, these are not located in the Darent area which must continue to depend on local groundwater sources for much of its supply.

You also suggest we wrote our own abstraction licences in the Darent area in a former existence. That is not true. They were issued by the Kent River Authority to the Metropolitan Water Board in 1966. The Thames Water Authority inherited them in 1974 and in turn passed them, unchanged, to this company in 1989.

Those who wrote the licences faced the difficult task of predicting water requirements for more than a quarter of a century ahead. Who can blame them now if, with their duty to the customer in mind, they created a necessary margin of safety?

Thames Water will continue to protect its customers' interests first — including the costs they must meet — while taking a caring and thoughtful approach to conservation issues.

Yours faithfully,
M. R. HOFFMAN,
Group Chief Executive,
Thames Water plc,
14 Cavendish Place, W1,
June 16.

From the Chairman of the Darent River Preservation Society

Sir, The call by Lord Crickhowell of the National Rivers Authority for reduced abstraction from our river's catchment is good news for the Darent. At the same time, I am depressed by the suggestion, mentioned in your leading article, that the NRA might be disbanded and its responsibilities given elsewhere.

The NRA's measures are, in fact, only a start. To restore the river requires an even greater revocation of water-abstraction licences. If this were done, the Darent might again flow naturally from its springs, even during drought years.

Yours faithfully,
HUW ALBAN DAVIES,
Chairman,
Darent River Preservation Society,
Troutbeck, Oxford,
Sevenoaks, Kent.

'Entombed' at Kew

From Sir Roy Denman

Sir, The first batch of official papers about the arrival in Scotland of Rudolf Hess has finally been released by the Public Records Office at Kew (report, June 11). More are to be released over the next few weeks. But we are told that one document is being withheld for "national security reasons".

This is only one in a series of such veils still purposely hung over the past by the government. Others, for example, relate to the discussions in 1939 and 1940 of the possibility of a compromise peace.

If the prime minister really wants open government in 1992, why should the facts — whatever they are — about the long dead statesmen of 50 years ago continue to be withheld from public view? Why not set up a small committee of privy councillors, including at least one historian, to look through the public documents still classified and either release them or give convincing reasons why the national interest requires them to remain entombed?

Yours faithfully,
ROY DENMAN,
194b Avenue de Tervuren,
1150 Brussels,
June 13.

Lack of direction

From Mrs Michael Baird

Sir, The Director of the Courtauld Institute Galleries complains (letter, June 16) that the local council has refused to put up signs directing the public to the new gallery in The Strand.

Could he perhaps steal the sign in Woburn Place misdirecting the public to the old site?

Yours faithfully,
JOSIE BAIRD,
11 Gloucester Crescent, NW1,
June 16.

Orthcoming marriages

Mr and Mrs P J Searcy, Wakefield, announce the engagement of their daughter, Miss P J Searcy, to Mr M G Ingelmeier, Wakefield. The wedding will take place on June 20, 1992, at 11.30am, at St. Peter's Church, Wakefield. The bride is the daughter of Mr and Mrs P J Searcy, Wakefield. The groom is the son of Mr and Mrs M G Ingelmeier, Wakefield. The bride's bridesmaids are Miss J Searcy and Miss M Ingelmeier. The groom's best man is Mr M Ingelmeier. The wedding will be officiated by the Rev. Canon J Searcy.

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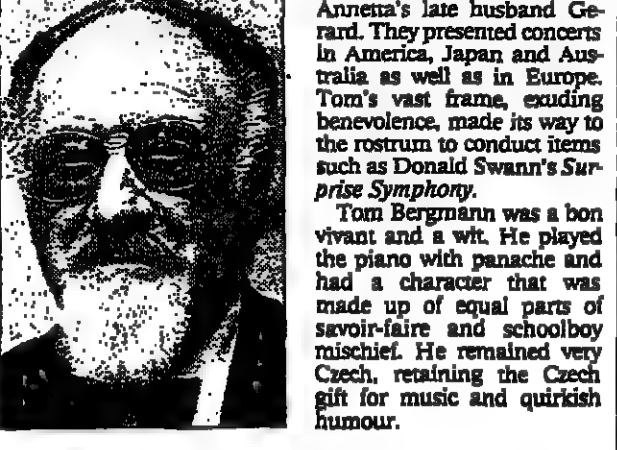
OBITUARIES

THOMAS BERGMANN

Thomas Bergmann, public relations manager, impresario and journalist, died in Karlovy Vary, Czechoslovakia, on June 11 aged 67. He was born in Prague on July 18, 1924.

THOMAS Bergmann was conducting a Hoffmann concert for the Prague Spring Festival only a few days before he died. It was his first visit to his native country since 1948, when he escaped arrest by the communist authorities by crossing the Austrian border by night on foot. His adventurous life was reflected in his large, brilliant personality, in his mastery of several European languages and in the ease with which he celebrated his many friendships.

He was educated in Prague until, at 15, he was sent by his family to England as a refugee from the Nazi occupation. He served during the war in the Free Czech Squadron of the RAF, reaching the rank of squadron leader, and returned to Czechoslovakia in 1945 to take over the family publishing house. He at once threw himself into Czechoslovak politics and the commu-



Portrait of Thomas Bergmann

SIR JAMES MCKAY

Sir James McKay, JP, DL, former Lord Provost of Edinburgh and Lord Lieutenant of the County of the City of Edinburgh, died on May 25 in Granada, Spain, aged 80. He was born on March 12, 1912.

AS LORD Provost of Edinburgh James McKay strongly defended the city's right to control its own affairs at a time when local government changes were being introduced that would split responsibilities between the district and the new regional authority of Lothian. He regarded the division, which came into being in 1974, as an attack on the status of the Scottish capital.

James McKay, who was a grand master mason of Scotland, was born at Bo'ness and educated at Dunfermline High School followed by Portobello Secondary School, Edinburgh. After school he entered insurance and later was made managing director of John McKay (Insurance) of Edinburgh, a company established by his father.

During the second world war McKay served in the Royal Navy, rising from ordinary seaman to lieutenant-

John Freeman Loutit, CBE, FRS, former director of the Medical Research Council radiobiology unit, died on June 11 aged 82. He was born on February 19, 1910.

JOHN Loutit was a hands-on scientist who led his team from the bench. It is not widely known that he, together with a few senior colleagues, personally ingested small quantities of strontium-90 in order to assess its biological effects. And to measure isotope retention Loutit arranged for a bone biopsy to be taken from his own leg.

The field of radiobiology is important not only from the standpoint of protection against the damaging effects of radiation but also because of the widespread use of radiation in the treatment of cancer. Loutit will be remembered as one of its greatest pioneers.

A native Australian, he went to Oxford in 1930 as a Rhodes Scholar in medicine. After completing his medical training and gaining experience in several clinical appointments, he became director of the South London Blood Transfusion Service, a post he held for most of the war years.

The explosions of the atom-bombs over Japan and the rapidly increasing interest in the development of peaceful uses of atomic energy led the government to recognise the need to set up a specialised unit to study the possible biological hazards associated with radiation. Loutit was invited to be its first director.

Although situated within the Atomic Energy Research Establishment at Harwell, the unit was placed under the aegis of the Medical Research Council to ensure its independence. A few years later it was sited outside the AERE in new laboratories still used for its research.

From the outset, Loutit recognised the importance of establishing a foundation of fundamental interdisciplinary research in cell and tissue biology, experimental pathology and genetics. Its purpose was to explore the interaction of radiation with biological material, the effects on cellular behaviour, the ab-

JOHN LOUTIT



Portrait of John Loutit

normalities in chromosomal material, the pathogenesis of injury in various mammalian organs, the distribution and mechanism of retention of radioactive material in the body and particularly radiation genetics.

He secured the transfer from Edinburgh of a genetics group to investigate the genetic effects of radiation in mammals, particularly mice. This team established itself as one of the world's leading groups in mouse genetics.

In the early days Charles Ford, a unit colleague of Loutit's, was developing methods for studying chromosomes and abnormal changes induced by radiation. He identified a chromosomal marker that Loutit and his colleagues used in discovering that radiation could suppress immunity.

They found that this immunosuppression was sufficient to allow grafting of bone marrow from genetically incompatible mice. This study helped in the understanding of radiation action and the treatment of leukaemia along with some other malignant diseases. His book *Irradiation of Mice and Men* appeared in 1962.

After continuing through the 1960s to develop the radiology unit and win for it a world-wide reputation in radiobiology, Loutit was faced in 1969 with the job of restructuring, and he decided to hand over and resign as director. He returned to work full time at the bench, which he enjoyed, until he finally retired at the age of 78.

John Loutit was appointed CBE in 1957 and was admitted to the Order of Orange Nassau (Netherlands) for his work in the field in the Netherlands towards the end of the war, when he helped to alleviate the medical problems arising from prolonged starvation in the population. He received honorary degrees from the universities of Stockholm and St Andrews. He was elected a fellow of the Royal Society in 1963.

Loutit was an able and enthusiastic cricketer. His skills in the kitchen were a delight to those whom he and his wife, Thelma, entertained at memorable dinners. She survives him with a son and two daughters.

MARGOT HEINEMANN

Margot Heinemann, teacher and writer, died on June 10 aged 76. She was born on November 18, 1915.

THE life of Margot Heinemann was a strange mixture of the political and the literary, but not a mere jumble of these spheres were welded together by her attachment to Marxism. She was one of the most remarkable of a generation of idealists now passing away, a race of men and women convinced that they had in their hands the key to a new world, a new existence for humanity — if only they could find the keyhole. They never did, but in the course of their search for it they achieved a great deal.

Born into a Jewish financial family from Frankfurt, only recently settled in London, she acquired an Oxford accent at Roedean and studied English literature at Newnham in the exciting Cambridge of the early 1930s. She was soon immersed in the affairs of the Socialist Society and in 1934 joined the Communist Party. She was a quietly attractive young woman, with a romantic side to her nature which won the love of her fellow-socialist John Cornford. He wrote memorable letters and poems to her from Spain before his death there in the International Brigade.

She had been doing some teaching, but now plunged into the Labour movement from 1937 to 1949 she was in the labour research department of the TUC. She learned much about coalmining and the unpleasant life of the miners, and wrote a book, *Britain's Coal*, published in 1944 by the Left Book Club.



Portrait of Margot Heinemann

Her life took a new turn when she and the scientist and socialist J. D. Bernal came together. Their daughter, Jane, was born in 1953, and the affectionate partnership lasted until his death in 1972. She was made for close and lasting friendships as well, and along with an old Labour Research Department associate, Noreen Branson, wrote a book on *Britain in the Thirties*. It came out in 1971, and aroused much interest and some controversy.

By this time she had found her way back into teaching and literature. She was fluent in German and made visits to East Germany, usually for conferences about Brecht or Shakespeare, the USSR, somewhat surprisingly, she never visited. Her teaching life had a fitting last chapter with a return to Cambridge, for a spell at New Hall.

Most of her writing on literary subjects was done in these later years, including the book *Puritanism and Theatre* in 1980. Yet her health had for long been precarious, because of bronchial troubles brought on or worsened by canvassing in London fairs in the early 1950s.

A love of hill-walking helped to keep her going so did a sense of humour that showed her the most ridiculous side of life even in coal pits or hospital wards. Her daughter and friends were often struck by this and thought of her as, in spite of everything, a happy being, free of morbidity. It was characteristic of her to like Tolstoy and not like Dostoevsky; and to think habitually about what could be done next, instead of brooding on what had gone wrong.

Highlanders hope for own university

BY KERRY GILL

THE creation of a university serving the Highlands and Islands of Scotland is expected to take an important step forward this month with the publication of a feasibility study compiled by Sir Graham Hill, former principal of Glasgow University.

Sir Graham has held discussions for the last nine months with educationalists throughout Scotland on how a university, first considered in the last century, could best serve the area.

Yesterday Val Maciver, chairman of education for Highland region, said the case for a university had never been stronger. Its creation would be the key ingredient for the area's expansion in cultural, industrial, economic and social spheres. As chairman of the Highlands and Islands University Advisory Group, Mrs Maciver told a

Church news

Appointments: The Rev Robert Bell, Vicar, Harrogate; to be also Rural Dean of Cradock (Lincoln).

The Rev Doreen Brown, Parish Deacon, Axminster, Chardstock, Combe Pyne and Rousdon (Exeter); to be Chaplain, Lincoln Industrial Mission (Lincoln).

The Rev Peter Brockwell, Assistant Curate, St John the Baptist, Knutsford and Toft (Cheshire); to be Vicar, St Peter and St Paul, Moulton (Peterborough).

The Rev Noel Cooper, Curate, St Jude, Plymouth (Exeter); to be Vicar, All Saints, Clapham Park (Southwark).

The Rev James Cross, former Army Chaplain; to be Vicar, St Peter, Streatham (Manchester).

The Rev Robert Daniel, Curate, St Giles, Camberwell; to be Vicar, St Swithun, Lewisham (Southwark).

The Rev Nicholas Denham, Assistant Curate, St Mary and St Cuthbert, Chester-le-Street (Durham); to be Minister of St Peter's, Rushden (Peterborough).

The Rev David Driscoll, Vicar, Theodora, Devon; to be also Rural Dean of Epping Forest (Chelmsford).

The Rev Colin Gough, Vicar, Wednesday St Paul; to be Team Rector, Tenthall Wood Team Ministry (Leitchfield).

The Rev John Harrison; to continue as Rural Dean of Brighthelm (Brighton) for a further three years.

The Rev Richard King, Vicar, Head Green (Cheshire); to be Priest-in-charge, Asprington, Cornworthy and Dittisham (Exeter).

Vicar's vase sells for £30,000

BY JOHN SHAW

A VASE inherited by a vicar from a friend and thought to be worth a few thousand pounds was sold for £30,000 yesterday.

The vicar and his wife, from Kent, were bequeathed the vase 18 months ago by an antique-collecting friend in thanks for looking after him before his death. At a Sotheby's valuation in Canterbury earlier this year the 12½in globular blue, black and white Arifa vase was thought to be worth several thousand pounds. At Sotheby's in London yesterday the vase, circa 1650-60, was estimated at £4,000-£5,000 but rapid bidding took it much higher.

The vicar, who did not wish to be named, said: "It is a good job I did not have to stand up straightaway afterwards as my legs were shaking and I think I would have fallen over."

The vase was one of three purchases by Mitsuo Fujikura, a Tokyo dealer, who had flown over for the auction. Another was a male lion-dog, bought for £49,500. It is a perfect example of the now rare Kakiemon wares exported from Japan to the west in the seventeenth century.

APPRECIATIONS

Sir Glyn Jones

YOUR admirable obituary of Sir Glyn Jones (June 12) underplays the remarkable circumstances surrounding his appointment as governor of Nyassaland.

In an interview with me in 1982 Jones revealed that, while minister of native affairs in Northern Rhodesia in 1959, he was called to a meeting in London with the recently appointed colonial secretary, Ian Macleod, who offered him "the most difficult job in the Empire".

This was to go out to Nyassaland ostensibly as chief secretary but in fact as his designate to the governor, Sir Robert Armitage, whose tour of duty was not due to end until April 1961.

His central responsibility was to establish a working relationship with Dr Banda, whom Macleod had decided to release from detention against Armitage's strongly expressed advice.

Macleod gave strict instructions that Armitage was not to be informed of the identity of his successor, with the result that Jones, to his acute embarrassment, had to endure several months during which his immediate superior speculated on whether he, Armitage, would be reappointed and who else might be in the running for the job.

It should be said for Macleod that, though the morality of his action left something to be desired, his choice of the new governor was inspired. Quite how Jones succeeded in establishing such a close rapport with Dr Banda must remain a matter of speculation though I like to think that the fact that Jones, almost uniquely among colonial officials, was not much taller than the diminutive Malawian played its part.

Dr K. J. McCracken

MAY I add an Oxford chapter to your excellent obituary on Sir Glyn Jones?

Being away from Great Britain for most of his career, Glyn Jones was conscious that he could take little part in his former college's affairs, though he joined the St Catherine's Association on going down in 1931. But on his return to this country he was asked by the then dean and his former English tutor (and mine), Chesney Horwood, to join the committee of the St Catherine's Association. He

followed the Right Reverend Gordon Savage, the Bishop of Southwell, as chairman of the association two years later and retained the chairmanship for a decade. It was one of the great pleasures of his life when Lord Bullock and the governing body in 1977 elected him an honorary fellow.

In 1982 he was asked to chair a transitional body for alumni affairs following the winding up of the college association; when that ended its work after six years, he was elected, at the suggestion of the then master, Sir Patrick Nairne, president of alumni for life. He was also president of the college's rowing society, which, during his period of office secured its first corporate sponsorship for an undergraduate activity.

Glyn Jones's concerns in involving himself in his college life were mainly for succeeding generations of undergraduates, from the days of the sixties of his non-collegiate contemporaries to the present largest college alumni body in Oxford; for the censors and masters of the foundation, the fellows and tutors and for the many often difficult issues which are part of today's higher education, including the necessity to mount a succession of appeals.

Glyn Jones, while enjoying a particularly happy family life and while pursuing the work for his many African charities did all of this at a time when most mortals have long since wound down their lives. But he was a man of exceptional vigour.

Tony Hancock

YOUR admirable obituary notice on Sir Glyn Jones indicated his great empathy with the African people among whom he worked.

This was clear from the fond memory people in the villages of Mwinilunga retained of him, many years after he had left that district of Northern Rhodesia (as it then was).

In so many villages there I found, as a successor DC, men and youths who had adopted the name "Jonas"; other previous DCs did not seem to have been so commemorated. And I, as a British officer serving briefly under him, gratefully remember his tolerance and kindness to me.

Nicholas Lines

Richard Kingswell

YOUR obituary of "Dickie" Kingswell (June 15) paid due tribute to his dedication, efficiency and courage in the administration of rugby football as well as to his distinguished career as a player. I think many will find it has done less than justice to the warm-heartedness and generosity of spirit which animated his friendships as well as his zest for the game.

I remember that, as per-

sons of no great consequence, my wife and I were made to feel wholly at home as his and Mary's guests at Twickenham in his year as president. On the following Saturday he was on the touchline of his old school slightly embarrassing me, his headmaster, with his unbridled spirit of support and loud questionings of the referee's judgment and eyesight.

His was a truly lovable personality, made the more engaging by his unabashed and undisguisable Yorkshireness.

David Ashcroft

June 19 ON THIS DAY 1906

Eighty years ago estimates were said to show that there were 250,000 more men than women in Canada and Australia and it was felt in some quarters that something should be done to enable women in Britain to play their part as "Empire makers".

A paper by the Hon. Mrs Joyce on "Openings for Educated Women in Canada" was read. In the author's absence by the Hon. Mrs. Fuller-Maitland.

The Hon. Bernard Wise, K.C., moved the following resolution: "That it is desirable, in the interests of the educated women of the British Isles, to consider further steps for promoting their colonization, and that the Central Bureau be asked, in co-operation with other societies, to act as a channel of supply and to form a representative committee to further the progress of the movement." He expressed the opinion that in Australia there was not the opening for nurses, teachers, or clerical workers that there seemed to be in British Columbia. But there was an opening for women of education to take part in the higher agricultural pursuits. In no colony would educated women be more heartily welcomed than in Australia.

Sir Horace Tozer (Agent-General for Queensland) said that the distribution of British people over the Empire must of necessity be beneficial.

Mr. Fabian Ware, in seconding the motion, gave an account of the work which had been done during the last five years in placing educated women at work in the Transvaal and the Orange River Colony. He did not think the conditions of employment in South Africa could be harder than they were in 1901-03, when educated women undertook the work with contentment. He was convinced that help could be obtained both from the Transvaal and Orange River Colony in the matter of finding openings for women who went out. He suggested that practical training on the spot would be preferable to training in this country.

Mr. W. J. Napier (New Zealand) also spoke for the motion, which was adopted.

Maxwells wake up to a day of stress

Continued from page 1

school. She returned ten minutes later looking tired and distraught. She still looked pale and tense when she left the house with Chloe, her youngest daughter, just before 10.45am. Earlier Mrs Maxwell visited her sister-in-law Laura. Ian Maxwell's wife, at the couple's home in Halkin Place, Belgrave. She refused to comment and told waiting reporters to "get off my doorstep please".

Kevin and Ian Maxwell and Lawrence Trachtenberg, a 38-year-old American, were taken to Snow Hill police station in the City of London in separate unmarked cars. Mr Trachtenberg was a director of Bishopsgate Investment Management, which handled the bulk of the assets in the Mirror Group pension funds. Dressed in a denim jacket and black jeans and clutching a small duffel bag, he was led from an unmarked car into the police station by a plainclothes officer holding his arm.

The Maxwell brothers were taken to the station by detectives in separate unmarked cars. Solicitors for the arrested men would not comment as they began to arrive at the police station. Just before 1pm the three men left the station to be driven to court in a police wagon. They were led out separately by a uniformed officer.

They arrived at City of London magistrates' court to a barrage of flashguns from press photographers. Police parked the wagon so they were obscured from view as they entered the back door of the court. A crowd of City workers gathered in the hope of a glimpse of the three.

After a hearing lasting more than an hour the men left the court. Ian Maxwell left saying nothing. Kevin Maxwell stopped to make a brief statement before catching a taxi home with the media close behind. He arrived back home alone at 5.15pm looking shaken with a fixed expression on his face. He said: "I have nothing further to add to what I've said outside the court this afternoon. Goodnight."

It appears that Pandora will have to endure the phalanx of press and photographers camped outside for a while longer.



Take your partner: first ladies Naina Yeltsin and Barbara Bush on a tour of the George Washington estate in Virginia yesterday

Wine beats heart risks

WHAT is the difference between southern France, where heart disease is rare, and southwest Scotland, where it is all too common? Two glasses of wine a day, according to a report by French scientists in this week's issue of *The Lancet*.

Uniting chauvinism with science, they suggest that wine has a greater protective effect against heart disease than other alcoholic drinks — including Scotch. This may be because it is usually drunk with meals and is absorbed slowly, giving a prolonged protective effect.

The research, directed by Dr Serge Renaud of the Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale in Lyons, attempts to explain the well-known fact that Frenchmen are less than half as likely to die of heart disease as Scots, in spite of eating a comparable amount of fat in their diets.

Dr Renaud concludes that the most likely mechanism to explain the beneficial effects of wine is that it discourages blood platelets from sticking

The French have made the surprising discovery that wine is better for us than Scotch, writes Nigel Hawkes

together, rather than directly influencing risk factors such as cholesterol. This mechanism may also help explain why it is that binge drinking, or heavy drinking at the weekends, does not apparently offer the same degree of protection as regular wine consumption.

Among such drinkers, Dr Renaud speculates, the stickiness of the platelets increases rapidly as they dry out after each binge, greatly increasing the risk of sudden death. By contrast, a steady daily dose keeps the platelets under control and reduces risks.

In support of the theory he cites a comparison between farmers in Var, southern France, with farmers in southern Scotland. The French farmers drank twice as much on average as the Scottish ones — 45g per day,

or three glasses of wine, against 20g a day in Scotland — and levels of cholesterol in the bloodstream were similar in both places. What was different was the tendency of the blood platelets to aggregate, which was 55 per cent lower in Var.

He also shows that wine consumption can help explain the wide scatter of the data comparing fat consumption and heart disease. When its protective effect is included, the result shows a much more convincing straight line relationship between diet and heart disease. "Alcohol is an important dietary factor in the regulation of the coronary heart disease process," he concludes.

Italian centenarians have immune systems as robust as people half their age, a team of Italian research workers report in the *The Lancet*. Their findings support the suggestion that ageing is a process in which the immune system gradually loses the ability to distinguish friend from foe, and ends by attacking its own body.

US and Russia to set up joint peace force

Continued from page 1

UN efforts to set up a secure zone around Sarajevo airport and a willingness to participate in UN efforts to provide humanitarian aid to Bosnia.

Mr Yeltsin left Washington for Kansas yesterday morning after a 20-minute meeting with Bill Clinton, the Democratic presidential nominee. The Russian president's spokesman portrayed the meeting as a matter of protocol, but it was nevertheless a boost for the Arkansas governor.

Mr Yeltsin later called Mr Clinton a "fighter against bureaucracy", valuable praise in a year when America has turned against Washington. Mr Clinton wholeheartedly supported US aid for Russia.

Clinton sides said the meeting was a sign that their candidate was not ceding foreign policy to Mr Bush as a campaign issue. "In the wake of the Rio earth summit, the idea that foreign policy is

Mr Bush's strong suit has been undermined," a campaign official said.

In another little-noticed summit accord, Mr Bush and Mr Yeltsin opened the way for unprecedented co-operation in space. Accompanying documentation said this could lead to the launch of US satellites on Russian rockets, astronaut exchanges next year on the US space shuttle and the Russian Mir space station, a link-up in space between the shuttle and Mir in 1994 and extensive US purchases of Russian space technologies, including the Soyuz-TM spacecraft as a crew return vehicle for Freedom, the US space station.

Yet another pioneering accord will for the first time allow US and Russian diplomats, journalists and businessmen to travel freely throughout each others' countries.

Era eclipsed, page 12
Letters, page 15

Political sketch

No foam-flecked wild man here

Libertarians are a minority in the Conservative party and almost extinct elsewhere in politics, yet the genus is hard to spot with certainty. Your sketch-writer's own rule of thumb is to ask himself whether, in the 1920s, the Tory in question would have been in favour of prohibition. Lady Thatcher, whose idea of liberty is that people should be free to do whatever is useful, sensible and polite, does drink but would have been a prohibitionist if she did not.

The new home secretary, Kenneth Clarke, drinks too, but would not be a prohibitionist even if he had never touched the stuff.

How do I know? Take home office questions yesterday in the Commons: an occasion for the "something ought to be done" brigade to come out with their sandwich boards. In British politics this brigade recruits from all parties. Left and right are distinguished by their rival definitions of evil, but united in their certainty that something ought to be done about it. The Tory version of the breed is confident that Christ came to earth to bolster the police. The Labour version suspects that His primary concern today would be to campaign against passive smoking.

Thus the first questioner, from Labour — Darling-ton's Alan Milburn — thought something ought to be done about shotguns. Predictably for a Tory, Mr Clarke was not persuaded. But to the second question his response was more surprising. Sir John Hunt (C, Ravensbourne) wanted the British people to be issued with identity cards. Mr Clarke was "not persuaded" by the case for this.

"That's a bit disappointing," said Sir John. One sensed from the mood of his colleagues that a majority of Conservative MPs agreed. They hoped the home secretary's mind remained open. David Ashby (C, Leicester NW) pushed a little harder. A "smart card," he suggested, would help the police apprehend lawbreakers or illegal immigrants from the continent. Other EC countries had identity cards.

Mr Clarke wouldn't have it. The bureaucratic paraphernalia needed to be justified, he suggested, and had not been. And it was

not true that the rest of Europe had introduced identity cards. Some had, some hadn't.

Nothing in the *Hanmer* report will prove this, but we had the clear impression that Mr Clarke's agnosticism about identity cards is of the aggressive sort. Even an offer of support from David Winnick, a Labour kaffe who carried most of the opposition with him, could not tempt the home secretary to rethink. Mr Clarke could have pleased his own side by indicating a sympathetic neutrality on the issue, but unsympathetic neutrality was his preference and he did not hide it. The house moved to Sunday trading.

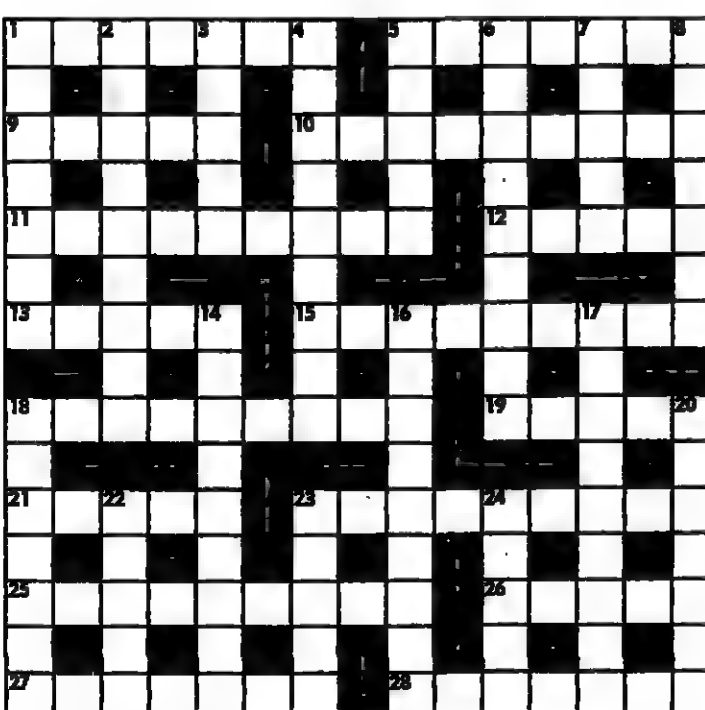
Nothing would have been easier for Mr Clarke than to have ducked: for the government takes no official view and it may be years before the issue is tackled. When Mr Clarke told John Marshall (C, Hendon S) that he could promise nothing, it did seem that the home secretary's discretion might prevail over his valour... until he added that Sunday shopping was "extremely popular" with his own constituents.

When Labour's Ray Powell (Ogmore) canvassed his own bill for restricting Sunday trading, it was unnecessary for Mr Clarke to comment. But Mr Powell's chapel tones and Usdaw sponsorship are guaranteed to rile him. "It's a feature of most proposals," he said, "that they want to define the type of goods, the type of shop, the type of hours." When Stuart Randall (a Labour spokesman) suggested Dewhurst's were closing branches, undermined by Sunday opening, Mr Clarke replied that "if Labour's policy is to protect Dewhurst's from competition," he was having none of it.

I suspect we may have a libertarian as home secretary. Not the wild sort who believes in legalising heroin, selling shares in the royal family and privatising the airforce: nor yet a liberal home secretary who wants to be nice to everyone. But a fellow with an instinctive preference for leaving people to sort themselves out, and a cheerful tolerance for ills which may arise.

MATTHEW PARRIS

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 18,949



- ACROSS**
- King (not Henry) takes most of the bedspread from 2 (7).
 - Copy of admonition (7).
 - A body of men, but not the entire body (5).
 - In undress, nudist outwardly disregarding fashion (9).
 - Tidy up — not unusual chore for policeman (5-4).
 - Saw in illustration woman's back (5).
 - Experience state can provide (5).
 - Office location about to become highly confidential (3,6).
 - Home team held in abhorrence after the first half (9).
 - Bird dries cricket club looking for enemies (5).
 - Pay a shilling to working men (5).
 - Hull's visible side not regulated by council (9).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,948

CHAISE ACIDHEAD
OITRDEAD
HERCULEANLEADS
EMMOCSTWIL
SHAMPOOTEACHIN
IETRIADOG
VALIDDATABANK
EUIUAS
SLIPNOTGRANT
AIGIALLI
DEFALLORTOLAN
METENNEOG
AFOOTGEARLEVER
SPTLELEA
SOFTSELLHEARTY

- DOWN**
- Man lifted first prize (7).
 - The epitome of egotism found in bed (9).
 - Change a little money in America and in France (5).
 - English captain diverted from Luton, then? (3,6).
 - Finally painting (in red) the town (5).
 - Tommy King, commander of a belligerent vessel (9).
 - Mature doctor turned up in the end (5).
 - Qualified people ultimately get appointment (7).
 - Working women tend to find source of permanent income (9).
 - Eric's alternative for a buffet? (9).
 - Rearranged e.g. central figure (9).
 - Badger's home in animal's favour (7).
 - Innocent scraps in which the French may be seen participating (7).
 - 5 ac leads doctor a dance (5).
 - Money — Anatole's a bit short (5).
 - Dim member of invincible army (5).

Concise crossword, page 9
Life & Times section

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

- TERP**
a. A cobbler
b. A historic mound
c. A fool
- RUNCATION**
a. Snoring or grunting
b. Finding fault with
c. Weeding
- EXSILIATE**
a. A defrocked Sibil
b. To reject with hisses
c. Pertaining to snakes or toads
- LATITANT**
a. Milking
b. A type of creeping clematis
c. Hiding

Answers on page 16

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE

C. London (within N & S Circs.)	731
M-ways/roads M4-M1	732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford	733
M-ways/roads Dartford-T-M23	734
M-ways/roads M23-M	735
M25 London Orbital only	736

National

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
London	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 50p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

TOWER BRIDGE

Tower Bridge will be lifted at the following times today: 9.30 am

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Tel: 0272 234634. Fax: 0272 225677.

Today's pollen count forecast is
MODERATE SELDANE
A major advance in hayfever treatment.

WEATHER

Showers already over much of eastern England will spread into central parts during the morning. They will become heavier and more frequent in the afternoon, especially over southeastern counties, where thunder is possible. Elsewhere will stay dry with sunny intervals. A fresh northerly breeze will make it feel rather cool along eastern coasts. Outlook more showers over southern England; elsewhere mainly dry with sunny intervals.

AROUND BRITAIN

	AM	PM	HT	Max	Min
Abertawe	10.5	18.5	18	18	10
Aberdeen	10.5	18.5	18	18	10
Belfast	10.5	18.5	18	18	10
Birmingham	10.5	18.5	18	18	10
Bournemouth	10.5	18.5	18	18	10
Bristol	10.5	18.5	18	18	10
Cardiff	10.5	18.5	18	18	10
Edinburgh	10.5	18.5	18	18	10
Exeter	10.5	18.5	18	18	10
Gloucester	10.5	18.5	18	18	10
Leeds	10.5	18.5	18	18	10
London	10.5	18.5	18	18	10
Manchester	10.5	18.5	18	18	10
Newcastle	10.5	18.5	18	18	10
Nottingham	10.5	18.5	18	18	10
Sheffield	10.5	18.5	18	18	10
Southampton	10.5	18.5	18	18	10
Stirling	10.5	18.5	18	18	10
Swansea	10.5	18.5	18	18	10
Torquay	10.5	18.5	18	18	10
Wolverhampton	10.5	18.5	18	18	10
Wrexham	10.5	18.5	18	18	10

TOURIST RATES

	Bank	Bank
Australia \$	2.51	2.35
Austria Sch	21.80	20.10
Belgium Fr	66.56	66.56
Canada \$	2.24	2.18
Denmark Kr	11.79	11.04
Finland Mk	8.46	7.88
France Fr	10.30	9.90
Germany Dm	3.055	2.855
Greece Dr	14.85	13.85
Hong Kong \$	1.14	1.07
Ireland Ir	2.20	2.10
Japan Yen	253.75	234.75
Netherlands Gld	3.43	3.22
Norway Kr	12.01	11.51
Portugal Esc	203.75	235.75
South Africa Rd	9.20	8.50
Spain Ptas	166.37	151.37
Sweden Kr	11.15	10.35
Switzerland Fr	2.75	2.57
Turkey Lira	13500	12500
USA \$	1.955	1.825
Yugoslavia Dnr	0.08	0.08

LIGHTING-UP TIMES

London 8.21 pm to 4.43 am
Bristol 9.21 pm to 4.53 am
Edinburgh 10.2 pm to 4.25 am
Manchester 8.42 pm to 4.38 am
Penzance 9.35 pm to 5.12 am

Sun rises: 4.43 am
Moon sets: 9.21 pm
Sun sets: 8.4 am
Moon rises: 11.51 pm

Weatherall is charged at 35p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

FOR THE LATEST REGIONAL FORECAST

24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

AROUND BRITAIN									
	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Aberdeen	5.2	1.9	1.8	5.4	bright				
Edinburgh	7.7	—	18	54	bright				
Glasgow	7.7	—	18	54	bright				
Birmingham	7.9	—	19	59	sunny				
Manchester	7.9	—	19	59	sunny				
Greater London	8.5	—	21	70	sunny				
Cardiff	7.2	—	17	52	bright				
Bristol	11.8	—	19	56	sunny				
London	12.0	—	19	56	sunny				
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political sketch
jam-flecked
man here

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Nothing in the...
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Mr Clarke could...
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restoring Sunday...
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Disappointing, yes. But we need our annual disappointment like our annual Wimbledon deluge followed by a predictable heatwave: it is part of our national heritage. What else would we write about each June?

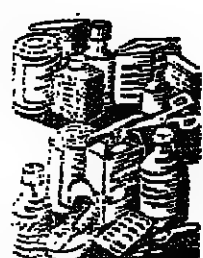
Eastbourne is a foretaste of Wimbledon: picturesque in the traditional British way, a green-and-white scene under an aquamarine sky. It is the perfect seaside setting for the senior citizens in white sun-hats, courteous in their applause, and glamorous schoolchildren: this is the game everyone can enjoy. Here at Devonshire Park lawn tennis has been played since 1890.

One pictures Mrs Lambert Chambers, the Edwardian tennis heroine, in her high-necked blouse, her petticoat and skirts to the ankles, moving as though on wheels to pat the ball in a loop over the net, in the days before Suzanne Lenglen amazed everyone by daring to show her legs. Today, legs are great sturdy trunks, with massive thighs and rippling calf muscles, smooth and brown and powerful. And the sheer force of the grunting two-handed backhand volley: how this game has changed. In Miss Dure's time it has changed beyond recognition.

"When I had my first pro year — when I went to Wimbledon and lost to Virginia Wade in the first round in 1977 — if you watch the finals for those years, the late 1970s, you think, my God, it looks so slow. Chris Evert looks overweight; and it's like she's not hitting the ball hard. Nowadays people expect to be athletic, they hit the ball out of sight, the whole thing has changed professionally and athletically. It really pleases me that I've been involved in tennis as it was then, and to have lasted so long."

But when we write our laudations about the British tennis player it is people like Miss Dure we think of, who has risen and fallen in the public estimation. She was the sunny, sparkling teenager, focus of patriotic aspiration: now she is that solidly British thing, the veteran with staying power. All the while she has lived the not very appealing life of constantly travelling the circuit: the endless hotel rooms, the sheer boredom of waiting for your match, so much wasted time spent hanging about conserving energy, punctuated by moments of glory

RAPID



HEALTH p4
Premature
babies: what
chance of a
healthy life?

LIFE & TIMES

FRIDAY JUNE 19 1992

FRANCE p5
From Le
Mans to the
festival at
Sully



Game, upset, smashed

Jo Dure on the strengths that have made her Britain's No 1, and the weaknesses that leave her a global also-ran

WE have been here before. A top British tennis player — the top British player, for no Briton is ranked more highly in the world than Jo Dure — is on court in a high wind under a cloudless sky. As I arrive I am told in whispered, hushed tones "She's 4-1 down." I watch the match. She loses 3-6, 1-6. Her opponent, Renne Stubbs of Australia, is cool and insouciant. Not only is Miss Dure outmanoeuvred and outplayed by a younger, quicker, more aggressive volleyer, she is also unlucky with some terrible line calls and disturbed by a deafening helicopter which circles overhead.

There is a knot in the crowd's collective stomach because the agreeable Miss Dure, now 31, our former child tennis star, once ranked fifth in the world, is still, after 22 years in the game, the best British woman player we've got, so come on, Jo...

THE VALERIE GROVE INTERVIEW



and depression. It is the nearest thing sport offers to the pop business, complete with fans, hangers-on, minders, agents and money-men.

Here is not an especially glamorous existence. She lives with her black cat Pickles in Enfield, Middlesex, in a house with a mortgage, practising daily with Alan Jones, her coach, at Hazelwood Club. Her idea of a good time is going out for a meal and a musical with friends. She skips every year, the only break from tennis. This summer her holiday will be spent at a dude ranch in Arizona: to play golf, and more tennis.

"This is my 14th year on the tour, and I'm ranked 36 in the world. I've had a really yo-yo career. I've come from being understudy to Virginia and Sue Barker to being ranked five in the world, and getting into semi-finals of Grand Slams, to having a bad spell and down to my lowest ranking of 160, last August."

How did she so dramatically change her fortunes since then?

"Well, in 1990 I played Newport, Rhode Island, and lost in the final to [Anastasia] Sanchez Vicario in a really close three-set match which put my ranking up to 60. A year later, Newport was cancelled, the only grass tournament outside Britain, so I could not defend my ranking. I had to play cement court tournaments in America. I lost in San Diego, and then went to Toronto and played an awful match in the first round. I was bad-tempered, frustrated, fearful, upset on court, lost in three sets, came off and cried my eyes out. I just went out of the front gate and sat under a tree and I was absolutely in despair. I was feeling so bad, so sorry for myself, it was all on top of me."

"And Alan came out and sat down with me and said: 'This is not worth it, not worth getting in such a state about. Think about your life. Why put yourself through all this emotional turmoil, when you work so hard and keep practising, and not get anything back which is pleasant?'"

"Well, from there we went to LA and, it's funny how things go, I just about scraped through my first match: the next round I beat Zina Garrison in the closest of matches, unbelievable tennis. I played so well. So I got to the quarter-finals. I thought: 'This is ridiculous, I am the same person as I was last week. Yet it feels as if something has been lifted off my shoulders.'"

"Now I feel, win or lose, I'm trying as hard as I can: you've got to loosen up. Jo, I went on to the US Open, won three rounds, and beat [Helen] Sukova. I've tried to keep the same attitude ever since. It's not always easy: but I feel I've come to



Long-service veteran: Jo Dure is still Britain's best hope for a first-round win at Wimbledon

terms with myself. It's not just about winning and losing, it's about performing and getting pleasure from it."

This is the mature and balanced Miss Dure at 31. Meanwhile, new young high-flyers emerge and suffer from massive over-exposure as, immature and ill-equipped emotionally, they face the pressure and publicity, the fatigue and the hassles. Monica Seles (aged 17) was quoted only last week as saying: "To be No 1 is a terrible cross. My life has become a prison. Even her hairstyle was a promotional deal with a cosmetics company, worth \$600,000. What a weird life."

"I feel in a way very sorry for any British player who shows any sign of being any good at this moment," Miss Dure says. "They pick on someone as the saviour of British tennis. So they will build you up, write about you, put you on a pedestal, be your friend, until you're suddenly not winning any more, and then my goodness, you'd better be ready for some of the nastiest stories they write about you and the way they can attack you and bring you back down again. It's not very pleasant. You have to build a kind of shell for yourself."

"Remember Annabel Croft? She got out because her nerve went. I'm sure because of all the pressure, everyone expecting her to be The Next One, and she couldn't handle it any more. She was so unhappy: watching her suffer on court was awful. I was glad in a way for her that she got out. Sarah Gomer showed promise but didn't quite

come up to expectations. It's tough. Clare Wood is another good player. But everyone wants Wimbledon champions, and they're not interested in anything less. It's even worse for the men: there have always been two or three of us hovering round the top 100, but the men... if you discount Jeremy Bates, who else are you looking at?"

Miss Dure was born with the advantages of those who succeed in British tennis. The first factor was access to a tennis court. The Dure family used to go every summer to Lyme Regis, in Dorset, to the large, grand house of Uncle Eustace and Aunt Nora, who had a shale tennis court. She and her two elder brothers, who both played tennis at county level and went to Cambridge and are both now school-teachers, and her younger brother Stephen, who now coaches at a London club, used to muck around on the court.

By the time she was eight she was a member of the King's Club at Bristol, run by her godfather Denis Bendall: a man ahead of his time in that he encouraged the juniors. "Any keen junior could join the club and he would have hundreds of us out there on Saturday mornings hitting balls and it was just so much fun. And he soon saw that I had more talent and needed individual tuition."

"It was the whole atmosphere. It was our own little club, where we could go four nights a week, after school, rain or shine, and play under floodlight. That's what started me off. Denis's enthusiasm

and nagging and pushing kept us going." He congratulated her for playing well when she had her first 0-6, 0-6 defeat in her first ever tournament at eight (her opponent serving underarm) and was there when she beat Debbie Jevons in the under-12 national finals on these very grass courts at Eastbourne.

Hurdle two was having parents willing to drive their children the long distances to tournaments: her father, a bank manager with Lloyds, would take his holidays to fit in with the circuit. This is the sacrifice in time and expense the tennis parent has to make: few can even contemplate it. In other respects her upbringing was quite ordinary. "I first went in an aeroplane when I was 16," she says, "and that was to Dublin to play a match. I'd never done anything but domestic junior tournaments. My upbringing was really very confined to what little kids did."

"Dad always said: 'You've got to do what you want to do, and you've got to be happy doing it.' If I rang him from abroad with results of some tournament, he would say: 'Worse things happen at sea.' That was his philosophy for the whole of my tennis career."

Thus it was all the more shocking when this man of equable temperament fell to his death, seven years ago, at the foot of the Avon Gorge. That was a harrowing time for Miss Dure. "I was glad I had tennis to put my mind to. I won the nationals that year. He was great, my dad, with all of us, all he wanted was for us to be happy. He was fabulous."

The problem for the British player is the way British attention focuses only on Wimbledon. "It's so unfair in a way. There are only two grass tournaments for women, and two for men, in the whole year, and all these commentators suddenly arrive and ask: 'Who's going to win Wimbledon?' It's pretty tough on us all. It happens year after year. Any success we have elsewhere is hardly noticed. Everyone is looking for a Wimbledon winner and it's just not going to happen like that."

"We need, we need to generate more interest throughout the year, to get people out onto tennis courts. In America they have TV commercials with Pam Shriver or Chris Evert saying: 'Pick up a racket! Come try it! Go to a park, see what

it's like! Somehow we've got to get them playing."

"You have to look at what's happening at grass-roots level to see if that's building up properly, then we can start looking for tournament winners and then for Grand Slam winners. But what do people expect? We haven't got that many youngsters playing tennis to start with."

She does her bit for the youth of Britain. She goes to places like Stirling, Glasgow, Plymouth, to do one-day coaching clinics as part of her sponsorship by Pilkington Glass. The best juniors in the region are brought out: 7,500 of them so far. "We try to give them a few tips and maybe inspire them a bit. We hope they help, but you wonder, where's the follow-up? Sometimes it's hard for these kids even to get to a tennis court, let alone to get coaching. So that's what we're up against."

In any case, she adds, consider tennis's appeal. For the good of the nation's health, it's more convenient than soccer, it's both competitive and fun, it gives you exercise and a social life and you can carry on playing for the whole of your life. Her mother still plays, all year round, in a genteel ladies' four.

Few international tennis stars have emerged as emotionally unscathed as Miss Dure, even after her injury

problems, with spinal surgery 10 years ago that took her out of the game for six months. When she injured her shoulder, she simply altered her serve to the very singular one she uses today.

Miss Dure is placidly eating an ice-cream cone. Her clothes are by Robey, her racket is a Spin, her shoes are Adidas, and Pilkington Glass ensures that her travel expenses, and Mr Jones's, are paid for, which all goes to keep her in the manner to which she became accustomed in youth. "If you spend a week in America, fares and hotel rooms come to £1,500, and that's a lot of expense if you have to pay the mortgage."

The partnership with Jones the coach has lasted since she left school in Bristol after getting her six O-levels and went to stay with him and his family. "We've had some terrible arguments. But our relationship is calmer now. He knows what I'm capable of. I've had to rely on his strength and he's been there for so long and never given up on me, as a coach and a friend."

At this point the familiar bespectacled figure of Mr Jones appears at her side and tells her she really ought to go and watch Linda Harvey-Wild, who is having a hard time on court 4 from Larisa Savchenko-Nelid, (Tennis women's names have lengthened as

their muscles have strengthened.) Miss Harvey-Wild is the 21-year-old American who saw off Miss Navratilova the day before and she is drawn to play Miss Dure in the first round of Wimbledon. "It's very good, but Savchenko is tying her in knots." We all troop off to watch Miss Harvey-Wild's nifty way of chipping the ball down the line. Mr Jones matters into Miss Dure's ear throughout. "Yes," Miss Dure says, "it was very educational." (Harvey-Wild won.)

Every year the LTA announces "new initiatives". There is money available. Short tennis is to be introduced into schools. A tennis supreme is appointed — as Warren Jacques was in 1988 — then leaves the scene: little has changed. The dynamo coach from Florida, Nick Bollettieri, Andre Agassi's mentor, last year announced he would be working with LTA coaches to bring on British youth in the American style.

Miss Dure has spoken out with passion about her despair over British tennis. "We should have regional centres with squads all over the country. We should have 40 players at Bisham Abbey [the LTA training centre], not four. I can't see how things can change."

When she was 11, Dan Maskell told her she would win Wimbledon one day. The furthest she got was

the quarter-finals, but even that was further than any other British player for years. Doubtless in the coming fortnight the same old questions will be asked: Are we hungry enough? Do we have the killer instinct? Is it just that we are such gentlemen (and ladies) and don't mind losing? Are British players "too nice"? People have often said Miss Dure, whose smile is more familiar than her scowl, is too nice.

"No," she says emphatically. "I wouldn't have got where I am today being too nice. I'm not too nice at all. I just treat everyone as you should treat other human beings. But when I'm on a tennis court, don't get me wrong: I want to win."

Our dear old "Tennis, anyone?" was long ago laughed out of court, and our game of "Sorry!" and "Good shoot!" and "My service is hopeless!" really is now the different ball game of the cliché. But even Miss Joan Hunter-Dunne had "the speed of a swallow, the grace of a boy" — and no sponsorship. Come on, Jo.

'I just went out of the front gate and sat under a tree and I was absolutely in despair. I was so sorry for myself'

TOMORROW

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A graceful loser, if not a happy one: Jo Dure in reflective mood

'They build you up, write about you, put you on a pedestal, until you're not winning any more. And then you'd better be ready for some of the nasty stories they write'

London Galleries: Richard Cork reviews the Richard Hamilton retrospective at the Tate

Pop's quizzical questioner

When Richard Hamilton was a boy, he would often find himself taken out for a spin in a brand-new Bentley or Jaguar. His father worked as a driver for Henry's, the West End car showroom, and Hamilton looks back on those front-seat joy-rides as "rather glamorous" occasions.

Now, 60 years after Hamilton senior steered those state-of-the-art automobiles through the city streets, his son's retrospective has opened at the Tate. And the survey proves that Hamilton junior retained that early sense of enthusiasm with modern urban life and its gleaming, seductive machinery when he became an artist.

But the central fascination of the show lies in the gradual transformation of his attitude. Ever-alert to the social shifts of his era, Hamilton's vision of motorised transport has changed from initial enthusiasm to eventual pessimism. In the early fifties, the car is seen as a speeding blur. Viewed from a passing train, the vehicle almost dissolves in a haze of fragmented, darting brushwork. For all its prowess as a feat of engineering, this tiny black automobile retains a touching innocence.

By the time he made cars the subject of his first Pop paintings in the late fifties, they had taken on a greater allure. Now of streamlined American make, they fill the foreground with the flashiness of outsize headlights and undulating chrome. The de-luxe fittings belong to the Chrysler Corp, the quintessence of worldly enchantment to young Englishmen struggling to emerge from post-war austerity. Packaged by advertisers who brazenly equated the car with erotic power, the Chrysler is wooed in Hamilton's painting by a sex goddess. Or rather, by the disembodied lips of Voluptua, who starred in a late-night programme on American television. Red and ripe, they float above the diagrammatic lines of an Exquisite Form.

However coolly analytical Hamilton may have been in his approach to such a subject, his underlying involvement is clear. But a decade later, the grey window of a police van frames an altogether more oppressive image: Mick Jagger and the art dealer Robert Fraser, their blanching hands fluttering as they brandished the handcuffs binding them together on a drugs charge. Here, at the height of the euphoric Sixties, "swinging" turns to "swingeing". A more ominous mood is introduced, quite alien to the high spirits of Pop.

From then on, Hamilton's view of the world underwent a progressive darkening. The sense of hope which had nourished his earlier art gave way to a suspicion that social structures were disintegrating. He still occasionally celebrated the designer sophistication of products such as a Lux 50 amplifier, made thin enough to be built into a painting. But the result represents the least interesting side of Hamilton's art. He is far stronger when questioning the contemporary world, and in a recent painting called *War Games* the full force of his dissatisfaction is unleashed.

At first glance, the Sony television flanked by speakers looks like another suave homage to technological expertise. By employing the Scanschrome system of colour enlargement, Hamilton makes the entire image resemble a television picture. Apart, that is, from two vital areas. The first, paradoxically, is the Sony screen itself. Painted in oils, the screen is filled with the "sandpit"



Elegiac: *My Marilyn* (1965), oil and collage on photograph on panel. Courtesy of Stadt Aachen, Ludwig Forum für internationale Kunst

model of the Gulf war made famous by Peter Snow's *Newsnight* commentaries. Balsawood tanks in green, blue and yellow are assembled there, reducing the horror of the conflict to the level of a children's game.

We are a long way, now, from the sleekness of Bentleys and Jaguars, or the Chrysler's stylish *élan*. The tanks mock any attempt to grasp the reality of late 20th-century armaments. Only beneath the television set does Hamilton redress the balance by letting thickly applied, blood-red paint dribble down the cabinet, where a newspaper headline refers to the "Mother of Battles".

Such a bitter image could hardly be further removed from the grinning face of a woman on television in a seminal collage Hamilton made 35 years before. The black-and-white set occupies only a small space in a living room packed with encyclopaedic manifestations of his engagement with popular culture. A kingly tin of ham sits on the coffee table like an Oldenburg sculpture, while a *Young Romance* comic-book cover is framed and given more wall-space than the ancestral portrait hanging nearby.

When Hamilton made this astonishingly prescient picture, for an exhibition at the Whitechapel Art Gallery in 1956, Pop Art did not exist. But his little collage is bursting with anticipations of the movement which would overturn western art a few years later. While an archetypal

fifties housewife vacuum cleans the stairs with an extended suction tube, a smug body-builder flexes his pecs and clasps a phallic lollipop emblazoned with the prophetic word "Pop". The entire image sums up the gleeful consumerism of the period with wit, finesse and a marvellously controlled exuberance. As well as honouring many of the interests of the Independent Group—artists, critics and theorists who held regular meetings at the Institute of Contemporary Arts—this collage provided Hamilton with a rich array of themes for future paintings. At the age of 34, a turning-point had been reached. From now on, popular culture would find itself placed at the very heart of his work.

But there was nothing brash about the pictorial strategies deployed in his Pop pictures. Apart from an untypical and rather tiresome roundel bearing the words "Slip it to Me", Hamilton's paintings of the period are pale, relict and sometimes complex to a fault: utterly different from the hard-hitting, billboard-size images developed by New York Pop artists.

Not for nothing did he study at the Royal Academy Schools and, after the war, at the Slade School of Art. An ambitious early painting called *Re Nude* is handled like a life-class model by William Coldstream, even though Hamilton subjects the figure to a sequence of repetitions inspired by the Italian Futurists. Time and again, he demonstrates his determination to renew western figure

painting. The fact that he uses raw material culled from Marilyn Monroe photographs, or a frame from the Bing Crosby film *White Christmas*, should not obscure that aim.

My Marilyn seizes on the disquieting effect of the cancellation marks the actress made to veto unsuitable photographs. Recreated on canvas, they obliterate her image several times over; and when Hamilton allows the approved version to emerge unscathed from these disfiguring strokes, Marilyn is robbed of all substance and reduced to a white, featureless phantasm. The outcome is an elegiac meditation on media manipulation and its tragic consequences.

Quite unpredictably, a similar melancholy prevails in *I'm dreaming of a white Christmas*. Standing in a hotel lobby, Bing Crosby stands as a numbing exemplar of mass culture at its most schmaltzy. But Hamilton paints the scene in reversed, negative colour. Bing becomes black, thereby lending a stinging irony to the title of his song. And the whole picture, benefiting from Hamilton's brushwork at its most subtle and beguiling, takes on a hallucinatory quality. The banal image becomes magical, transformed with delicacy and daring by an inveterate avant-gardist who is still traditional enough to rely on the metamorphic power of art.

Richard Hamilton. Sponsored by SRU Ltd, at the Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1 (071-921 1313). Mon-Sat 10am-5.50pm, Sun 2-5.50pm (last admission 5.15pm). Until September 6.

GALLERY CHOICE

● **ALLSH SHIMA:** Roy Miles breaks new ground in his summer show this year by turning the spotlight elsewhere in the former Eastern bloc, to Albania. Shima, who graduated from the Albanian Academy in 1965, is well worth discovering: his brilliant Post-Impressionist colours are held in check by the disciplines of masterly draughtsmanship. Also older favourites, such as Konstantin Lomkin, known as the "Russian Degas" because he specialises in studies of ballerinas. Roy Miles Gallery, 29 Bruton Street, London W1 (071-495 4747). Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat 9am-1pm, until July 23.

● **MEXICAN PAINTED BOOKS:** The impact of Europe on the Americas was in most ways culturally disastrous. Owing to systematic destruction by Spanish friars, very few pre-Conquest Mexican books remain—only about 16 texts. But the form of book, which was primarily mnemonic, enabling a "reader" to deliver a text with great accuracy from the pictures, survived into colonial days. Surprisingly, some of the finest are in this country, rarely seen because of their fragility. British Museum, Great Russell Street, WC1 (071-636 1555). Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2.30-6pm, until September 6.

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR

TELEVISION REVIEW

Mirror images of the right stuff

We all know about role models, but what about anti-role models? These are people who provide an infallible guide to life, but only if you do the opposite. Examples are easy enough to think of: Jane Fonda, unofficial American politician, has a sure touch. Oliver Reed is a possible anti-role model for those aiming for a life of inconspicuous discretion.

Among politicians, few can hold a candle to Robert McNamara. As President Kennedy's Defence Secretary, he discovered "the missile gap"—which we now discover never existed—and gave the arms race a healthy shove in the wrong direction. During the Vietnam War, he was, well, wrong. Then in the Eighties he was apparently wrong again, opposing the tough policies of the Reagan administration which finally persuaded the Kremlin the game was up.

According to the second programme in the Pandora's Box series, shown on BBC2 last night, McNamara was the

victim of analysts from the Rand Corporation, who believed they could apply the logic of science to the messy business of international politics. The invention of the bomb provided the opportunity for their calculations, and the Cold War the perfect mise-en-scène. Up went the curtain and on came Herman Kahn and Albert Wohlstetter, talking with ghoulish enthusiasm about overkill and mutually assured destruction.

The technique sounded new, but really wasn't. During the second world war, British scientists pioneered the science of operational research, analysing, among other things, the effects of saturation bombing. They used numbers to give precision to the politicians' hunches, or to disprove them. The men and women at Rand and later at Kahn's Hudson Institute added a new vocabulary, and addressed a new problem—the nuclear balance of terror—but they were the heirs of operational research.

They deserve more credit than producer Adam Orris

seemed willing to give them. True, they could sound pretty grim at times, as they discussed the aftermath of nuclear war—90 million Americans might be dead but that meant 90 million would still be alive, Kahn smiled, so "happy lives" would still be possible—but these things are better discussed than left to emotion.

In their more lucid intervals they also helped devise strategies that would minimise the risk of war and create the most stable possible balance. In the aftermath of the Soviet Empire all this may seem obvious, trite, or unnecessary. Who knew that the other side were making the same coldly rational calculations? Nobody; but to assume it at least paid the enemy the compliment of intelligence and logic.

The trouble was that number-crunching could never provide a substitute for politics. McNamara's band

delivered reams of figures about how well the Vietnam War was going when any eyewitness could see it was going badly. President Johnson introduced the analysts into his administration to create his Great Society and they failed. President Reagan preferred the advice of astrologers and science fiction writers, who quite honestly did no worse.

The saddest sight in the film were the empty corridors and echoing rooms of Kahn's Hudson Institute, abandoned now that the Cold War and Kahn's giant personality have been extinguished. Once this impressive pile in New York State was the object of abuse from anti-war demonstrators who believed that to think rationally about nuclear weapons was to make their use inevitable.

The demonstrators were wrong, and the analysts were right... or so it would appear so far, anyway.

NIGEL HAWKES

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Was sex the force driving Britten?

A new biography of Benjamin Britten is certain to shock some of the composer's admirers. Richard Morrison reports

A startlingly frank biography of Benjamin Britten, delving deep into hitherto closed areas of the composer's life, is to be published in October by Faber. Britten's own publisher, in 600 pages *Humphrey Carpenter* (biographer of W.H. Auden and Ezra Pound) draws together astonishing verbatim accounts of Britten's paedophile behaviour, his homosexual affairs in the years before he formed his lasting relationship with Peter Pears, and his apparently callous abandoning of friends who were of no further use.

Some of these areas have been discreetly alluded to by earlier biographers. But Carpenter, who was given "carte blanche" by the Britten-Pears Foundation to quote from Britten's highly explicit letters and diaries, goes further.

Britten is said to have told Eric Crozier (librettist of *Albert Herring*) that he was raped by a master at his prep school, and to have remarked to another librettist, Myfanwy Piper, that his father sent him out to procure boys. The young composer is depicted in the Thirties as part of a promiscuous homosexual world that seems to have included nearly every major creative figure of the age. The book claims that Auden, wooed Britten in poems and in person; Isherwood tried to seduce him in a Turkish bath; the composer Lennox Berkeley also made serious approaches.

Later, Britten himself made advances to his most illustrious English contemporary, Michael Tippett. "He thought it would be nice if we slept together, which we did, though I drew back from sexual relations," Tippett is quoted as saying.

Carpenter discusses Britten's life-long infatuation with young boys. His book contains lengthy interviews with several who shared Britten's bed, and he also talks to the film actor David Hemmings who, as a 12-year-old playing the boy Miles in the premiere of *The Turn of the Screw*, was once the object of an intense Britten crush. Rather bizarrely, Britten is also said by Carpenter to have "loathed" Strauss's opera *Der Rosenkavalier* because of

its suggestions of lesbianism. Britten's inability to take criticism or even gentle ribbing of himself or Pears is argued to be a prime reason for his notorious treatment of former colleagues, or "corpses" as they were known after they were banished from the Aldeburgh circle. They included most of Britten's librettists, many singers and several distinguished conductors, including Sir Charles Mackerras (shunned after making a joke about the number of boys in *Noyes Fludd*, Lord Harewood, once a staunch friend, was ostracised because his divorce offended Britten's prudish sensibility.

The thrust of Carpenter's book is that Britten's psychological history must be given paramount consideration when his music is being interpreted. Carpenter relates both *The Turn of the Screw* and *Billy Budd* back to the alleged prep school abuse. In *Peter Grimes* the characters of Grimes and the "mothering" Ellen are linked to Britten himself and Pears. *Gloriana*, telling of Queen Elizabeth I's discarding of the Earl of Essex, is related to Britten's own discarding of courtesans. The War Requiem may be as much about Britten's guilt at the suicide of a discarded lover as it is a "reparation" for the second world war.

These contentions are liable to be hotly disputed when Carpenter's book is published. Some will side with Pears. "I do not believe Ben's private life plays any role in the assessment of his artistry and personality," However, many recent biographies of musical giants—notably on Tchaikovsky, Menuhin and Bernstein—have taken the opposite view, laying bare every peccadillo.

Carpenter quotes Stephen Reiss (a longtime administrator of the Aldeburgh Festival, whom Britten turned against) as saying "I feel most strongly that BB can survive the truth and still come through as one of the most supreme and lovable persons that ever lived." Readers of Carpenter's book may not find it so easy to reach the same verdict.

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Too young to live, too small to die

What chance does a premature baby have of making it through to a healthy childhood? Jenny Caffe reports

Brett's hand is the size of his father's thumbnail, his body the length of a man's watch strap. He was not due to be born until mid-September, yet here he is, already three weeks old, attached to life by a criss-cross of thin tubes, one into his nose, another into his mouth, another into his scalp and another into a vein in his arm. Lying flat in a Perspex cot with his legs and arms splayed out, his red, wrinkled face peeping out of a woolly bonnet, he reminds his mother of an ancient tortoise.

Throughout her pregnancy Chris Greenwood had been bleeding, an indication that there may have been something wrong with the placenta. Doctors at her local hospital in Halifax, west Yorkshire, recommended bed rest. She already had a five-year-old son, so that was easier said than done. But last month, when Mrs Greenwood was five months pregnant, she was forced to spend a few days in hospital. While she was there, she went into labour. Doctors can't say for certain why some women give birth prematurely. There was an attempt to stop labour with drugs, but this did not work. By the time Mark, her husband, arrived, she was having contractions every five minutes. The midwives told her that at 23 weeks gestation the baby was bound to be born dead. Somebody came in and asked her if she wanted it incinerated or buried.

"I couldn't believe that anyone could be so insensitive," Mrs Greenwood says. "I could feel the baby moving inside, but here they were telling me it was as good as dead." Frances Hargreaves, her mother, remembers seeing staff move the cot away from the labour room. Mrs Hargreaves says she had to insist that an incubator was brought in and heated, just in case her grandchild was alive. It seems

little Brett shared his grandmother's determination. As soon as he was born, at 9.55pm on May 23, he cried and stretched out an arm. Without hesitation, medical staff put him on a ventilator and rushed him into intensive care.

His parents saw him properly for the first time an hour later. They were astonished by how small he was — 1lb 5oz. Mr Greenwood says: "He looked totally different to what I expected a baby to look like. His skin was so transparent you could see everything."

When he was a few hours old, Brett was transferred to the regional neo-natal unit at Leeds General Infirmary, where he is now in the care of consultant paediatrician Professor Malcolm Levene. A baby born 17 weeks premature, as Brett was, has a one in ten chance of survival. According to Professor Levene, Brett is on the very edge of life, the limit of viability.

No baby younger than him has survived in Britain. Tyler Davison, the baby born this week in Nottingham weighing 1lb 2oz — the smallest surviving baby for 50 years — is only 11 weeks premature. Were it not for Tyler's size, his chances of surviving would be far higher than Brett's: the success rate increases dramatically with age. Babies born at 24 weeks have a 25 per cent chance of survival; at 26 weeks this rises to 50 per cent, and at 28 weeks babies in Leeds have a 90 per cent chance.

Over the past decade, advancing technology has allowed doctors to push back the limits of viability. The introduction of an artificial surfactant (a fluid lining naturally present in mature lungs which helps us breathe) has stopped immature lungs from collapsing. Technicians have developed smaller instruments. Ventilation techniques have been refined.



Holding to life in Leeds: babies born at 24 weeks have a 25 per cent chance of survival; at 26 weeks, 50 per cent, and at 28 weeks, 90 per cent

'We started off with perhaps nothing and finished up with everything'

However, the price of survival may be high. The younger the baby, the more likely he or she will need ventilation, in which gases are blown into the lungs under pressure. But this may lead to chronic lung disease. Most of these babies start to breathe unaided after three or four days, but the very premature may stay on the ventilator for several weeks. Fragile blood vessels near premature babies are prone to brain haemorrhage, and many suffer from necrotising enterocolitis, a condition of the bowel which leads to problems with absorbing food. For those who survive, there is a 5 per cent risk of severe handicap, and a 10 to 15 per cent risk of some form of disability.

Technological advances in neonatology have led to the fear that premature babies are being kept alive when their chances of long-term survival and health are doubtful. Professor Levene says that by the time a baby is referred to his unit, a decision has already been made to start treatment. But he does not believe that this commits doctors to continue intensive care indefinitely. The situation has to be

constantly reviewed, and at any time medical staff and parents may face the decision about whether or not to withdraw treatment.

While Brett Greenwood is in one Leeds intensive care ward, a 24-week-old baby is brought into another. There are signs that he has suffered a brain haemorrhage, and his teenage parents are warned about the possible outcome. Over the next few days doctors and nurses keep them fully informed about their baby's condition. There is more bleeding into his brain, and nothing more can be done for him. He is taken off the ventilator and dressed in white baby clothes. His parents hold him in a quiet room for several hours, until he dies. The nurse who has been looking after him leaves the unit in tears.

The staff at Leeds are aware of the enormity of deciding whether to withdraw treatment. They stress that the final voice has to rest with the parents, and that their role is to guide them by offering an accurate and honest picture of the baby's condition. Professor Levene believes that the death of a baby should not be regarded necessarily

as a failure. "We mustn't see success as being lots of healthy babies who survive lots of neo-natal intensive care. Success can also be a baby who has died because of an untreatable condition, but who has been known and loved by his parents."

The important ethical question is when to consider withdrawal of treatment.

Professor Levene's reference point is whether or not the child will be able to attend a normal school, or whether he or she is so mentally disabled that they will never be able to look after any of their needs. Such a view is bound to cause offence to some, but Professor Levene says he has known only two or three parents in the past ten years who have wanted him to continue intensive care in the knowledge that their child will be severely mentally disabled. In those cases their physical condition improved, but they remained brain-damaged. However, he says these children are very much loved and cared for by their families.

This is an ethical area in which

doctors and parents work very much on their own. So far, the law has left such decisions in their hands. Clinicians are guided by the Hippocratic oath, which says they must act for the benefit of their patients, but that above all they must do them no harm.

What parents need to know is how accurate the medical predictions are. An understanding of neurology and experience in analysing scans has taught Professor Levene and his senior colleagues how to predict the effects of damage to the brain, but some of the other medical complications cannot be foreseen. Once doctors and nurses have embarked on treatment, it is harder for them to discontinue it. At Leeds they admit that in some cases they may have carried on trying a bit too long.

"The big problem is that we're all human," Professor Levene says, "and we're making difficult decisions based on sometimes inadequate information, without having the benefit of knowing what's going to happen in the future."

There is no doubt that the right decisions were made for Andrew

Puckering. Born 15 weeks early, weighing 1lb 6oz, he is now a chubby seven-month old. Robert and Mary Puckering spent the first few months of their baby's life hoping for the best one moment, expecting the worst the next. Andrew suffered several complications, including a pulmonary haemorrhage, but each time he fought back. Now, he is apparently doing all the right things for a baby born on February 18, 1992, which is when he was due, rather than his actual birthday of November 6, 1991.

The Puckerings have been told that Andrew has a one in five chance of developing asthma, and that he may be more susceptible in his first year to coughs and colds, but by the time he goes to school there should be nothing to distinguish him from a baby born at full term. As Mr Puckering says: "We started off with perhaps nothing, and finished up with everything. We're very lucky."

Jenny Caffe reports on neo-natal care for Public Eye tonight (BBC2, 9pm). © Times Newspapers Ltd 1992

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Doctors in distress



MEDICAL BRIEFING
Dr Thomas Stuttard

The general public is unlikely to be reassured by the views expressed at this week's conference organised by the British Medical Association on stress-related symptoms among doctors. It seems that the doctor's psychic armour is as liable to buckle under the tensions of dealing with the general public as anybody else's.

Reaction to stress varies and the increasing importance given to A-level results rather than personality in choosing doctors makes it unsurprising that some of those selected are unable to take the considerable strain. Younger doctors are less likely to have come from a medical background which accepts its tribulations and there is no longer the same support of colleagues or the boost to morale provided by social status.

The impact which adverse circumstances have on a personality depends on many factors. Some people will, mistakenly as it happens, be demanding tranquillisers while others when confronted by the same situations will remain totally relaxed. There is certainly a genetic factor which determines response to stress: just



as some breeding lines in animals have more progeny who are highly strung, so do some families. Unfortunately the very people who carry the genes which would make them likely to succumb to stress are the same ones who are unlikely to provide a relaxed and happy family background

for their children: one of the few factors which are known to predispose to sensitivity to stress is insecurity in childhood.

What is euphemistically described as stress is essentially the same condition which in the past was more unkindly called an anxiety neurosis. Anxiety states, which can either be acute or chronic, exhibit both physical and mental symptoms. People harried beyond endurance by the trials and tribulations of life may start to lose concentration, with memory becoming poor and reasoning flawed. They become cross, edgy, irritable, suffer from light sleep and insomnia and may display many of the features of a minor depressive episode. Small wonder that the BMA must provide care for its members who are so afflicted.

Physical symptoms of anxiety can be divided into three groups. Some are due to an over-stimulated autonomic (spontaneous) nervous system — a rapid heart rate, shaking, sweating, indigestion, an over-active gut and a sensitive bladder so that sufferers are for ever rushing to the lavatory. The stress patient is a tense patient: the second group of symptoms are due to muscle tension which can distort the spine so that the patient suffers headaches, shoulder and chest pain and back ache; limb muscle tension makes them feel tired and heavy. Finally, anxious patients hyperventilate at best they take long, sighing respirations, at worst they breathe so rapidly that they suffer chest pains, faintness and a tingling in the hands and feet.

Confidence restorer

An hour or two in a clinic dealing with genito-urinary medicine would be long enough to convince any by-stander that many doctors are reluctant to discuss a patient's sexual problems. A common complaint from men is that if they suffer from premature ejaculation they have received little help from their own GP.

Waguih Guirguis, a consultant psychiatrist in Ipswich, has recently written in the medical journal *Update* on the changing approach to premature ejaculation. Once it was thought to be due to over-enthusiasm and the measures considered appropriate ranged from anaesthetic creams, to wearing two condoms, to teaching patients to think about some ghastly haridan rather than their partner, which would seem to defeat the object of the exercise. Later, when premature ejaculation was considered to

be a sign of anxiety, Masters and Johnson taught a stop-go technique, so that sexual stimulation was temporarily suspended at the point before ejaculation became inevitable.

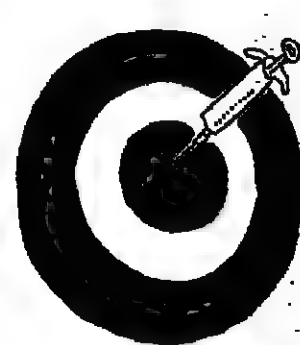
In all probability the causes of premature ejaculation vary. In some it may be due to an excess of youthful vigour, whereas in others anxiety may be responsible. The first really helpful drug in its treatment was clomipramine Anafranil, usually used as an anti-depressant it was found that one of its side effects was to delay ejaculation. More recently the 5 HT re-uptake inhibitors, the newer and safer anti-depressants, have been shown to be even more effective in this respect. No doctor would prescribe drugs for any length of time for premature ejaculation but they have a role in restoring, or creating, confidence in a man whose domestic life may have crumbled because of this symptom.

High-risk factor

During the second world war the habit of stressing one particular aspect of the war effort for a week became established. Doctors have followed the lead and now designate certain weeks to draw attention to particular diseases; this week is hepatitis B week.

Hepatitis B, which used to be called serum hepatitis, or jaundice, is worldwide one of the commonest causes of death from cancer. Whereas in Britain it only affects a small minority, in many Third World countries up to 60 per cent of the population have had the disease and may well remain carriers. Infection of the infant occurs during the perinatal period; decades later a minority will develop fatal primary cancer of the liver.

In Britain the disease is usually spread by blood, semen and vaginal fluids, and possibly even saliva; in consequence medical staff, people looking after children or the



mentally subnormal, as well as homosexuals and promiscuous heterosexuals are at greatest risk. Most experts on liver disease who see the damage which hepatitis B can wreak in the early stages of the disease — and many years later — feel that now that more people are travelling to exotic places and former citizens of the Third World are coming to live in Britain, that it is no longer adequate, let alone good, community medicine to limit the injections against hepatitis to high-risk groups.

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Rallying to a different cause

George Hill
celebrates the
forgotten charms of
the town and
environs of Le Mans

OUT of earshot of the roaring engines and squealing tyres at the Tertre Rouge bend, there is another Le Mans, and a peaceful region often overlooked by British visitors to France. Le Mans is one of those names like Sutton or Twickenham which, for most who hear it, do not denote a place so much as something that happens there.

At least for the French the name also brings to mind *rillettes du Mans* — the feather-light local transfiguration of poted pork — as well as the 24-hour race. For the British, the town is almost a blank, and its hinterlands along the Sarthe and the Loir an undefined territory to be crossed in the dash to the south.

A couple of hours' driving beyond Le Mans brings one into sight of the white pinnacles and crowded tourist traps of the other Loire — feminine, not masculine, in gender, and a far moodier and stronger stream than its mild male near-narrake.

The area between has great interest and charm in its own right. It is a little less strenuously devoted to wooing the tourists than the Loire, and it makes a pleasant stopping point on a leisurely journey to the south.

The city was a place of significance long before Gustave Singher and Georges Durand launched the 24-hour endurance race in 1923. The old town, on a bluff above the Sarthe, is a small enclave within a busy modern city, and a highway in a cutting slashes across the middle of it. But flinggoers might recognise parts of the jumble of half-timbered 15th century houses and classical town houses of later centuries.

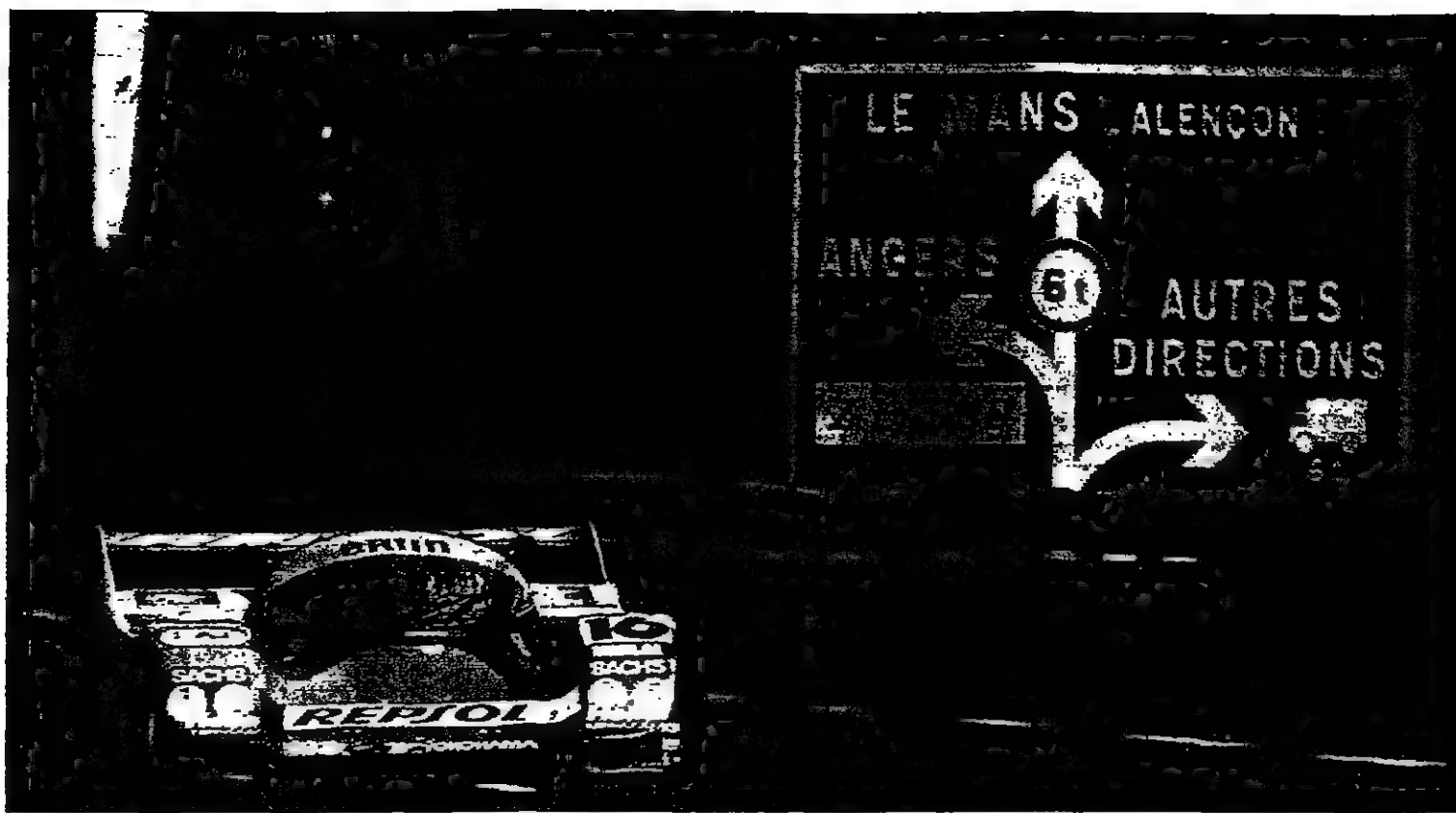


Image of power: but Le Mans was a place of significance long before the 24-hour endurance race was launched in 1923

because much of the film of *Cyrano de Bergerac* was made there. During the filming, the steep alleyways under the cathedral were intriguingly embellished by additional outcrops of crumbling medievalism, indistinguishable from the originals until one looked behind, and found they were only one brick thick.

The cathedral gives a similarly disorienting impression, because it begins as a sturdy no-nonsense romanesque nave, and then suddenly transforms itself into one of the most extraordinary efflorescences of high gothic, bristling like a porcupine with flying buttresses and radiant with 13th century stained glass. Some critics (free of local bias) judge it to be the finest gothic chancel in France, which means the finest anywhere.

The main road south leaves in peace the chief attractions of the

valley of the Loir. Quiet towns like La Flèche and La Chartre lie beside the river. Vendôme, Châteauneuf and Le Lude have pale turreted châteaux, very similar to the more famous ones that overhang the big Loire.

Le Lude puts on a *son et lumière* display every summer. Many other châteaux do the same, but at Le Lude more than 100 local people joust, drill and dance in the pageant every year.

I found the village band marching up the narrow main street, followed by every inhabitant old enough and young enough to walk. At the same time the *pompier* were giving a demonstration of how to dislodge a hornet's nest from a chimney (the hornets throwing themselves into the spectacle with enthusiasm), and procession and demonstration became cheerfully entangled.

The landscape of the Loir is not as flat and sandy as the region of the Loire is in places, and because the smaller river is relatively smooth-flowing it is more suitable for water sports such as swimming, canoeing and cruising. As in other regions, it is possible to make expeditions for several days by canoe (or by bicycle, on foot, or in a horse-drawn caravan), with one's baggage taken on separately to each night's destination.

Places to stay range from camping sites (the riverside one at La Flèche is attractive) to comfortable small town hotels, such as the Relais Cicero in La Flèche — one of those decorous French establishments where a wall of creepers and an iron gate seem to bar outsiders from a glimpse of white shutters and a shady courtyard. There are few restaurants of wide renown, but many of ample com-

tence, such as the Hotel de France in La Chartre. Travellers seeking a lodging with more character than a hotel will find a wide variety of *Chambres d'Hôtes* to explore, including the Chateau de la Préfontaine, at Lésigné, where rabbits crop the lawn and white ducks peacefully swim on the pond.

GEORGE HILL

Further information: Association pour le Développement de la Vallée du Loir 3, boulevard René Levasseur (passage du Commerce), 72000 Le Mans. The Le Mans 24-hour race starts at 4pm Saturday, June 20 and finishes at 4pm on Sunday, June 21. Further details from the Automobile Club de l'Ouest, Circuit des 24 Heures, les Rattieres, 72100 Le Mans (010 33 4340 2424).

TOMORROW: In Weekend Times the best of Normandy

Properties of the week

FRANCE

WHAT YOU CAN GET FOR
£15,000 to £20,000



For £15,000 (including agency fees), you can buy this detached stone-built cottage and former distillery in Cognac country, a few miles from the old town of Barbezieux, in the southern Charente. The nearest airport is Bordeaux, about an hour and a half's drive, and Caen can be reached in five hours. Situated in a peaceful medieval village, surrounded by vineyards, the property, with pretty gardens back and front, is structurally sound, but needs renovation. It has two rooms on the ground floor, with oak-beamed ceilings and a huge fireplace. A wooden staircase leads to a large attic, which could be converted into two bedrooms. It comes with a vast workshop and an adjoining open-sided barn. The UK agent is Western France Properties, 70 Brewer Street, London W1 (071-734 9003).



The same sort of money — £15,000 (including agency fees, taxes and notarial costs) — will buy this rambling village house, near Arles-sur-Tech in the Pyrenees Orientales, near the Spanish border. The airport at Perpignan can be reached in 50 minutes, but allow 12 hours for the drive from Calais. Stone-built on three storeys, the old house has a big rear garden and magnificent views over the mountains beyond. It is shabby but habitable, with mains water and electricity. There is a kitchen/dining room, fireplace and wc at street level, with a living room, two bedrooms and a room that would convert to a bathroom upstairs. The UK agent is Barbers, 427-429 North End Road, Fulham, London, SW6 (071-381 0112).



Further north, in Normandy, £18,000 will buy this detached stone tin-roofed house, surrounded by lush, undulating countryside, not far from Vire. Caen (Ouistreham) is 45 minutes' drive. It is in good condition, but needs interior redecoration, a new bathroom and wc. There is a large living room and fitted kitchen, with three bedrooms, plus loft and wine cellar. The UK agent is Sinclair Overseas Property, The Business Centre, PO Box 492, Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire (0525 375319).

CHERYL TAYLOR

Details of properties are supplied by British and French estate agents. Bear in mind that habitable does not necessarily mean comfortable.

Adventure into innocence

FRANCE

FIRST IMPRESSIONS:
JILL FREUD



"I don't think I was very imaginative, and I hadn't understood from school geography that everything would be strange. I hadn't conceived that things could be so shatteringly differ-

ent." Not yet as cynical and sated with tourists as the south is today, La Napoule took Jill and her friends to its bosom. "I talked a lot of terrible French and loved it. All that month people like cameramen and actresses and my sister and her husband from Egypt kept turning up. The landlady thought we were mad, sleeping all over the place."

The food, after the post-war dreariness and nursery recollections of the British diet, was another revelation. "I remember thinking bouillabaisse was just wonderful. And drinking wine, which you had all the time and which was entirely new to me. I was just in love with it all."

"People were terribly nice to me, always. I suppose I was very naive, and it never occurred to me that anyone might disapprove of us all in that house. It's the effect of living in a loving family; you expect people to be kind to you. I remember a whole crowd of us going up to Venice in the Alpes-Maritimes and having lunch

at a great long table outside a café. I and a young cameraman wanted to go to the loo — I didn't know the word so I think I said I wanted a "chambre de toilette". The waiter looked a bit surprised and went away, then after a quarter of an hour he came back and we were solemnly taken up to a bedroom where they'd made up a double bed for us. I don't know quite what they expected of the English, in the middle of lunch."

Jill Raymond came home, worked, married, and travelled again as a wife and mother. It was not the same. "The awful French stopped, because Clay (Clement Freud) was so very good at French I didn't dare open my mouth for years. So I lost it. Actually, until I was about 55 I had this secret pipe dream that I was going to chuck everything and go and be an *au pair* and learn French properly. After five children of my own, I realised I had better give up that pipe dream. But it is the most beautiful language I have ever heard. At the moment I am trying to learn Portuguese, and whenever I search for a word up comes French again."

LIBBY PURVES

Test your knowledge of Paris and the Parisians in today's competition

Win a short break in Paris

The Times in association with T.A.T. European Airlines and Copthorne Hotels, is giving readers the chance to win one of five luxury two night breaks in Paris. The winners of today's competition and their partners will be flown by T.A.T. European Airlines, to Paris. In Paris they will stay for two nights at the new four star Hotel Copthorne Charles de Gaulle in Roissy. Today's winners will also receive two complimentary tickets to visit the Chateau Chantilly.

To enter telephone our competition line on 0891 700 149 before midnight tonight. You will be asked to give your answers to the questions

(right), leave your name, address and telephone number. Calls cost 36p per minute at cheap rate and 48p per minute at all other times. The winners will be selected at random from all correct entries received by midnight tonight. The winner's names will be published in The Times next week.

Conditions of entry: Employees (and their relatives) of Times Newspapers Ltd, T.A.T. Copthorne Hotels or their agents are ineligible for entry. The Editor's decision is final. No correspondence can be entered into. The Times competition rules apply — available on request.

THE QUESTIONS

1. Who designed the glass pyramid that now forms the main entrance to the Louvre?
2. Name the cemetery where Balzac, Chopin, Oscar Wilde and Jim Morrison are buried.
3. Where in Paris is Napoleon's tomb?

Tuesday's answers are:
1. Louis Blériot, 2. A station, 3. The Bourne, La Défense, 8th arrondissement (any of these three was accepted).

Wednesday's answers are:
1. Prison du Temple and then Conciergerie, 2. Font Neuf, 3. Ne de la Cité

Monday's winners: Mr R.A. Cox, London; Mrs M.A. Lawrence, Hastings; Mr D. Hardy, Gravesend; Mrs L. Hunt, Bristol; Mrs J.E. Wilson, Oxford. Tuesday's Mr S.J. Cooper, London; Mr R.J.L. Watson, Halstead; Mr L.E. Parkes, Birmingham; Mrs E. Farrell, Worktop; Mr M.A. Watson, Woking. Wednesday's Mrs R. Bryant, Leeds; Mr J. Leake, Merseyside; Mr R. Bard, London; Ms A. Nicholson, Bucks; Mr M. Row, Weston-super-Mare

TAT EUROPEAN AIRLINES

Art that spans the centuries

FRANCE

FESTIVAL FRANCE:
SULLY

Set against the magnificent medieval backdrop of the chateau of Sully-sur-Loire, the Festival International de Sully opens tomorrow and runs until July 19, providing audiences with a programme of more than 20 events.

One hundred and forty kilometres south of Paris and 45km east of Orleans, the picturesque 14th-century chateau on the banks of the Loire provides an apt setting for a programme which spans four centuries. Rosalind Plowright, the soprano, opens the festival with extracts from operas by Verdi, Rossini and Puccini. The first weekend also features the young French cellist Christophe Coin, accompanied by the Camerata Academica of the Salzburg Mozarteum under Sandor Vegh, and soloists from the Berlin Philharmonic playing Bach, Beethoven and Mozart.

The second weekend includes *Swan Lake* danced by the Moscow Classical Ballet on June 28, choreographed by Marius Petipa, and on June 27 a concert by French flautist Jean-Pierre Rampal.

The Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields and the choir of

St John's College, Cambridge lend a British note to the third weekend, when the remarkable Russian pianist Elisabeth Leonskaja will also give a recital of works by Schubert and Chopin on July 4. The weekend of July 10 boasts a performance by the Ballet Theatre of St Petersburg of two ballets by leading contemporary choreographer Boris Eifman. Baroque is celebrated once again on July 17 when Britain's Gabrieli Consort Choir and Players will perform in the magnificent Cathédrale Sainte-Croix in Orléans. The festival concludes with Ray Charles and his orchestra at the chateau on July 19.

SUSAN BELL

For information and reservations contact: Festival de Sully, BP 59-45600 Sully-sur-Loire (010 33 38262946).



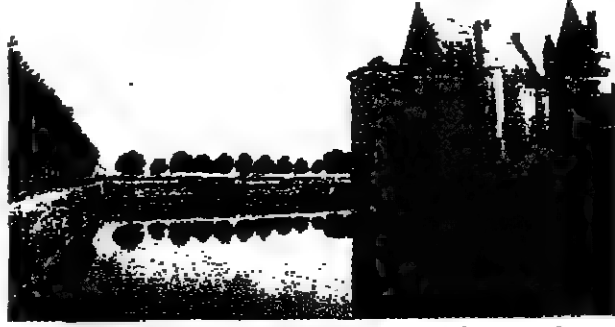
Napoleon in Cherbourg

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Medieval backdrop: the chateau of Sully-sur-Loire

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Dimbleby of the green acres

It is not *de rigueur*, yet, for a conservation group to be fronted by a celebrity. But goodness, it is becoming common: sufficiently so for there to be little or nothing incongruous about seeing Jonathan Dimbleby emerge from a grand building off St James's Street, as he did this week, as the president of the Council for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE).

What is incongruous, however, is the identity of the building, the headquarters of the Royal Overseas League. True, young Dimbleby is just back, "Rio-lagged" from the Earth Summit, and is much travelled in pursuit of his trade, but surely the CPRE is one organisation whose practical remit does not stretch to the rescuing of rainforests. Even he is not quite sure why he is here.

He is dressed more for chairing than for conserving, but there is a bright patch of verdure on his otherwise urban aspect. This is the CPRE badge, which is now sported by a membership of some 45,000 in an organisation enjoying the best revenue in its 65-year history. The meeting just held was that of the CPRE's general council, which has ratified his appointment. This is what might be termed a sustainable, or at least renewable system of presidency, with no hard and fast rules about length of tenure. For example, his predecessor, the film producer David Putnam, stayed for seven years. It was the persuasive combination of Mr Putnam and the council's chairman, David Astor, that approached Mr Dimbleby.

When asked about job description, or agenda, he becomes a straightforward mixture of two English archetypes: the thoroughly briefed environmentalist of the Porritt generation, the kind who knows that there is no longer room for windy romanticism; and the stylistic heir to Ludovic Kennedy, famously popping in to help out on his way to the club. "Patrician" is a tempting definition, but unfair.

The organisation over which he presides is one of a bewildering set of initials in the growth area of British rural "protection". It is an area in which some three million citizens have at least one paid-up affiliation. Picking a path through this field can be as daunting as following a right of way over the land of a plough-happy farmer in

Alan Franks meets the new president of the Council for the Protection of Rural England

East Anglia. Yet the CPRE has long been, and remains, one of the most influential of the pressure groups. It is neither as specific nor as militant as, say, the Open Spaces Society, which is devoted to the retention and proper use of common land, nor the Ramblers' Association, forever locked in access struggles.

The CPRE's claim is that it is a strong and increasingly effective lobbyist on green issues in London and Brussels. It lists among its

'I feel that I operate in territory that is common ground. It is a body that can speak for everyone'

policy successes of 1991 a government commitment to legislate for the protection of hedgerows; the announcement of 12 new Environmentally Sensitive Areas, which will extend the principle of paying farmers for positive countryside management; and, most important, the acceptance of environmental assessment in primary legislation for the first time.

It is the International Dimbleby, as well as the domestic one, that is buoyed by this last development. "There is an absolute consensus imprinted through the Rio declaration that the environment is of critical importance. All the territory occupied by the CPRE is within the broad framework of that recognition. I feel that I operate in territory that is common ground. I strongly believe that it is a body that can and

should speak for everyone. If people see it as some special-interest rural group, then I think they are getting it wrong. If it is in any sense a Nimby organisation, then it is Nimby for all, by which I mean that there is one backyard on which we all depend. There are any number of policy issues involved in how we protect and enhance that yard, but I wouldn't have been in it [the CPRE] if it had been merely to protect the rural dweller against the invasion of the outsider."

Groups such as this one are at best canny and at worst naïve to attract presidents who bring fame as their dowry. When the arrangement works, the organisation increases its own profile. When there is a clash between individual and outfit, it can become a downright liability. Mr Dimbleby is likely to take the careful way, above all sticking to the views which would probably be endorsed by most members on the executive committee.

This brings us to the question of impartiality — or the partial surrendering of it. If you look at some of Mr Dimbleby's famous past commentaries at other organisations, you can see across figures who were, in the literal sense of the word, prejudiced: David Bellamy at the Youth Hostels Association; Mike Harding at the Ramblers' Association; after him the landscape photographer Fay Godwin; arguably even Brian Redhead at the Council of National Parks. Prejudiced in the sense that their known inclinations made them seem not only compatible with the particular group, but also something beyond that: good proselytisers. Mr Dimbleby brings, by contrast, the image of a chairman. Surely these two roles cannot live happily in the same person, and is this not simply a hard fact of public life? The question comes to him as no surprise, and his answer is long and considered:

"I thought very carefully about the implications before accepting. My instinct is, yes, of course it's a campaigning group, but it is not party political. In fact, a large number of the issues it deals with attract support from right across the parties. I would not — and indeed would not be asked to — carry banners across Twyford Down; that is not the CPRE style. If there is a particular issue on which I, as president, stand up and say



Country voice: Jonathan Dimbleby will not carry banners — but he is still prepared to stand up and say "There is a great error here"

"There is a great error here", then I don't think I could expect to make a TV programme on the subject. To that extent, I am limiting my job opportunities. But I do expect to go on making programmes in which the environment is an issue. And I would be surprised if my role at the CPRE makes people say "Dimbleby is so *parti pris* that he cannot possibly go on making programmes on that subject". There are many broadcasters with passions. Those passions may be about sport, or opera, or whatever. No-one is saying of them that they are unable to broadcast impartially. I would pose the question "Can a humanist chair a discussion on the virgin birth?" and I would say that the answer is "yes".

A modesty, chairmanlike rather than presidential, seems to claim him when he is asked to say in his own words rather than someone else's why he was so courted by Messrs Putnam and Astor. There is no reeling off of the relevant c.v.

expos. In fact there is an alarming falling back into the double negatives and thirdpersons of polished reticence: "not wholly incompetent at organising my ideas ... not entirely unwilling to say what I think ... use what modest talents one has ...". Broadcasting it isn't.

However, in the course of all this, it turns out that he went to Cirencester Agricultural College, and very nearly became a farmer. He was brought up in Sussex, where his father had 30 acres. There can be few television presenters with a comparable field credibility in lamb delivery. If his father had not died when he did, it is possible that someone else would now be chairing *Any Questions* and doing all the other things that he does. But there are no lost-career regrets. If you wanted him to, he could launch into a detailed critique of the Common Agricultural Policy or set aside.

When Mr Dimbleby sallies forth into the shires, and goes deep into the differing heartlands of CPRE membership, he will encounter virtually every one of our national types who ever took up arms — actually or otherwise — in defence of the countryside. Apart from those who favour, as he does, the CPRE's consensual approach, there are a few who believe that a land in *extremis* must take recourse to like measures and allow no further rural building whatsoever. Such people are not given to delivering their views with reticence. What will he do about them?

He smiles his unexceptionable smile: more chairman's smile than president's smile. But not a bland smile, for he seems to recognise the type under scrutiny. "I know this sounds like an easy old escape route answer, but it is the truth: I will do what is appropriate. I live in a part of the countryside, just outside Bath, which is under enormous pressure. It is Green Belt land, an

AONB (Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) on the southern edge of the Cotswolds. It is immediately by the A46, which is under great pressure to be extended. I am very aware of the pressures on a valley like that, and I do not believe you can resolve all those just by saying no. You have to do that far harder thing of trying to provide convincing arguments about what are the best options."

"I like the CPRE for not shouting the odds, but for arguing cogently and precisely. It has a highly developed intellectual framework, so that when it deals with the authorities, local or national, it does so in language and on terms which is hard for politicians to resist. This does not mean for a moment that they [politicians] will agree with the conclusions, but that the argument mounted is one which requires serious consideration. If you can't win by sound argument, you probably don't deserve to win at all."

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2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 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3144, 3145, 3146, 3147, 3148, 3149, 3150, 3151, 3152, 3153, 3154, 3155, 3156, 3157, 3158, 3159, 3160, 3161, 3162, 3163, 3164, 3165, 3166, 3167, 3168, 3169, 3170, 3171, 3172, 3173, 3174, 3175, 3176, 3177, 3178, 3179, 3180, 3181, 3182, 3183, 3184, 3185, 3186, 3187, 3188, 3189, 3190, 3191, 3192, 3193, 3194, 3195, 3196, 3197, 3198, 3199, 3200, 3201, 3202, 3203, 3204, 3205, 3206, 3207, 3208, 3209, 3210, 3211, 3212, 3213, 3214, 3215, 3216, 3217, 3218, 3219, 3220, 3221, 3222, 3223, 3224, 3225, 3226, 3227, 3228, 3229, 3230, 3231, 3232, 3233, 3234, 3235, 3236, 3237, 3238, 3239, 3240, 3241, 3242, 3243, 3244, 3245, 3246, 3247, 3248, 3249, 3250, 3251, 3252, 3253, 3254, 3255, 3256, 3257, 3258, 3259, 3260, 3261, 3262, 3263, 3264, 3265, 3266, 3267, 3268, 3269, 3270, 3271, 3272, 3273, 3274, 3275, 3276, 3277, 3278, 3279, 3280, 3281, 3282, 3283, 3284, 3285, 3286, 3287, 3288, 3289, 3290, 3291, 3292, 3293, 3294, 3295, 3296, 3297, 3298, 3299, 3300, 3301, 3302, 3303, 3304, 3305, 3306, 3307, 3308, 3309, 3310, 3311, 3312, 3313, 3314, 3315, 3316, 3317, 3318, 3319, 3320, 3321, 3322, 3323, 3324, 3325, 3326, 3327, 3328, 3329, 3330, 3331, 3332, 3333, 3334, 3335, 3336, 3337, 3338, 3339, 3340, 3341, 3342, 3343, 3344, 3345, 3346, 3347, 3348, 3349, 3350, 3351, 3352, 3353, 3354, 3355, 3356, 3357, 3358, 3359, 3360, 3361, 3362, 3363, 3364, 3365, 3366, 3367, 3368, 3369, 3370, 3371, 3372, 3373, 3374, 3375, 3376, 3377, 3378, 3379, 3380, 3381, 3382, 3383, 3384, 3385, 3386, 3387, 3388, 3389, 3390, 3391, 3392, 3393, 3394, 3395, 3396, 3397, 3398, 3399, 3400, 3401, 3402, 3403, 3404, 3405, 3406, 3407, 3408, 3409, 3410, 3411, 3412, 3413, 3414, 3415, 3416, 3417, 3418, 3419, 3420, 3421, 3422, 3423, 3424, 3425, 3426, 3427, 3428, 3429, 3430, 3431, 3432, 3433, 3434, 3435, 3436, 3437, 3438, 3439, 3440, 3441, 3442, 3443, 3444, 3445, 3446, 3447, 3448, 3449, 3450, 3451, 3452, 3453, 3454, 3455, 3456, 3457, 3458, 3459, 3460, 3461, 3462, 3463, 3464, 3465, 3466, 3467, 3468, 3469, 3470, 3471, 3472, 3473, 3474, 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BBC1

- 6.00 Ceefax (195242) 6.30 BBC Breakfast News (42066987)
9.05 Perfect Strangers. American comedy series (1) (6230890) 9.30 Today's Gourmet. Jacques Pepin prepares mushroom-stuffed pancakes followed by veal chops with mushrooms, corn and pepper sauce, ending with fruit nut cups (627727)
10.00 News, regional news and weather (5088451) 10.05 Playdays (s) (4145884) 10.25 Tales of Asop (s) 10.35 Daffy Duck Double Bill (s) (7427567) 10.50 News, regional news and weather (5088451) 10.55 Cricket. Tony Lewis introduces live coverage of the opening session of the second day's play in the second Test between England and Pakistan at Lord's. Includes news at 12.00 (s) (9873755) 12.55 Regional News and weather (5088364)
1.00 One O'Clock News. (Ceefax) Weather (21548) 1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (59665987)
1.50 Cricket and Racing. Further coverage of the second day's play in the second Test at Lord's, and racing from the final day of the Royal Ascot meeting featuring live coverage of the 2.30, 3.05 and 3.45 races. The 4.20 race is covered by BBC2 (s) (79508600)
3.55 A Bear Behind (s) (4721432) 4.05 Fantastic Max (s) (6597364) 4.15 The All New Popeye Show (s) (2717548) 4.35 The True Story of Spit Magpie. Episode one of an eight-part children's drama series from Australia (s) (Ceefax) (4352074)
5.00 Newsround (6697971) 5.10 Troublemakers. Episode three of a six-part drama (s) (Ceefax) (9306074)
5.35 Neighbours (s) (Ceefax) (146141). Northern Ireland: Inside Ulster
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Peter Sissons and Moira Stuart. (Ceefax) Weather (432)
6.30 Regional News Magazines (884). Northern Ireland: Neighbours
7.00 Wogan. Terry's guests include Roger Moore. Music is provided by Peter Dinklage. (Ceefax) (s) (75728)
7.35 Harry and the Hendersons. American comedy series about a family who befriend a monster animal after accidentally wounding it on a camping holiday. (Ceefax) (s) (986797)
8.00 Birds of a Feather. Another repeat episode of the Laurence Marks and Maurice Gran comedy starring Pauline Quirke and Linda Robson as prison widows. With Lesley Joseph as their obnoxious neighbour. (Ceefax) (s) (5507)
8.30 Joker in the Pack. Marti Caine hosts the show where two teams try to "out-joke" each other. (Ceefax) (s) (7906)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Maryn Lewis. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather (4600)



Revenge is sweet: Cropper, Oxenberger and Goodall (9.30pm)

- 9.30 Ring of Scorpions. The first of a four-part Australian drama starring Caroline Goodall, Linda Cropper and Catherine Oxenberger as friends who plot revenge on the charmer who betrayed them (540971)
10.20 Film: The Couch Trip (1988) starring Dan Ackroyd, Charles Grodin and Walter Matthau. Well-worn comedy about a mental patient on the run who assumes the identity of his psychiatrist and causes chaos when he becomes a radio phone-in "agony uncle". Directed by Michael Ritchie. (Ceefax) (174180). Northern Ireland: Up to the Port 10.50 Film: From the Hip
11.55 Film: The Masque of the Red Death (1964).
● CHOICE: Roger Corman's reputation as a stylish director of low-budget genre films reached its peak with his series of Edgar Allan Poe adaptations starring Vincent Price. The Masque of the Red Death is the format at its best, a horror film of intelligence, imagination and visual polish whose shocks are not simply tacked on for effect. The film was Corman's first to be made in Britain and had the benefit of outstanding camerawork from the future director, Nicolas Roeg. The use of colour and composition is consistently striking and always in the service of the story. Employing his usual mixture of villainy and black humour, Price plays a 12th-century Italian nobleman who practises devil worship and is finally punished for his evil. The supporting cast includes Hazel Court and a young Jane Asher. (Ceefax) (375161). Northern Ireland 12.55am-1.55 Film: Born in East LA
1.25am Weather (3939469)

BBC2

- 6.45 Open University: The Victorian Holy Church (9115345). Ends at 7.10. 8.00 Breakfast News (1141890)
8.15 Westminster. A round-up of business from both Houses (6570426)
9.00 Daytime on 2: Topics — money 9.15 Teaching today 9.45 Watch: seabirds 10.05 Short circuit 10.35 Greek language and people 11.00 Schools' programmes reviewed 11.30 Japanese language and people 12.00 Teaching today 12.30 Scene: twins 1.00 Darwin and evolution 1.20 Brain 1.30 The Adventures of Spot 1.35 Crystal Tipps and Alastair 1.40 Tales from Europe — Finland
2.00 News and weather (5093882) followed by Words and Pictures. Reading for five to seven-year-olds (44481154) 2.15 Weekend Outlook (s) (41881203)
2.20 Cricket, Racing and Tennis. Further coverage of the second day's play at Lord's. The commentators are Richie Benaud, Ray Illingworth, Geoffrey Boycott, Jack Bannister and Asif Iqbal, from Royal Ascot, the King's Stand Stakes (4.20), with commentary from Peter O'Sullivan, John Hamner and Jimmy Lindsey, and semi-final action in the Pilkington Glass Ladies' championship from Devonshire Park, Eastbourne. The commentators are John Barrett, Virginia Wade and Julian Tait. Includes news and weather at 3.00 and 3.40 (9485616)
6.00 Film: Squadrons (1964) starring Cliff Robertson, George Chakiris and Harry Anderson. Standard second world war heroics about a squadron assigned to destroy a heavily fortified German stronghold in Norway. Ron Goodwin's rousing theme music helped to make it popular. Directed by Walter Grauman
8.00 Public Eye. A report on neo-natal problems focuses on three sets of parents at Leeds General Infirmary and the medical staff who have to make the life and death decisions. Last in the series (3513)
8.30 Gardeners' World. Pippa Greenwood asks the Water Services Association whether gardeners are getting a raw deal in terms of water supply when only 3 per cent of household water is used outside. There are also suggested gifts for Father's Day (5548)
9.00 Bottom. A repeat of the smutty comedy starring Rik Mayall and Adrian Edmondson as flat-mates desperately trying to date women. (Ceefax) (s) (2242)



Poetic justice: Jackie Kay and the Rosetta case (9.30pm)

- 9.30 Words on Film: Twice Through the Heart.
● CHOICE: Tonight's personal documentary in verse is presented by Jackie Kay and recalls the case of Elsie Amelia Rossett, a woman of 63 given a life sentence for murdering her husband. Rossett had suffered years of physical, mental and sexual abuse before she took out a knife and stabbed him but this cut little ice in court. In any case she was loath to disparage her husband's name. Kay's commentary, backed up by comment from lawyers, is an angry condemnation of a legal system which fails to take provocation into account and works against women. Kay uses her poetic imagination to suggest the thoughts of Rossett, which are intercut with the story words of the judge. The argument is formidable and was eventually accepted by the appeal court, which reduced the charge to manslaughter and set Rossett free. (Ceefax) (s) (76971)
10.00 Have I Got News For You? Irreverent news quiz hosted by Angus Deayton. This week the regular team captains, Ian Haplo and Paul Merton, are joined by comedian John Sessions and newsreader Trevor McDonald (s) (45513)
10.30 Newsnight with Francine Stock (102155)
11.15 Scrutiny. Iain MacWhirter reviews the week's work in Parliament (155548) Wales: Wales in Westminster 11.45 Weather (89513)
11.50 International Golf. Steve Rider presents highlights from the first round of the US Open at Pebble Beach. The commentators are Peter Alliss, Bruce Crichton and Dave Marr (862890)
12.35am News and weather (5095010)
12.55 Cricket. Highlights of the second day's play in the second Test at Lord's between England and Pakistan (3784933). Ends at 1.30

ITV

- 6.00 TV-am (1677567)
9.25 Cross Wits. Crossword quiz game show hosted by Tom O'Connor (6236074) 9.55 Thames News (1883971)
10.00 Out of This World. American comedy series about a teenage girl with a mixed alien/human parentage (s) (87616)
10.30 This Morning. Magazine series (48129616)
12.10 Rainbow. Early learning series (s) (7266577)
12.30 Lunchtime News. Sonia Russell and Nicholas Owen. (Oracle) (5358819) 1.10 Thames News (62887258)
1.20 Home and Away. Australian family drama series. (Oracle) (18942703) 1.50 A Country Practice (s) (68911258)
2.20 Highway to Heaven. Jonathan, the apprentice angel, and Mark his human assistant, help a dedicated doctor who is in danger of losing his health and his home. Starring Michael Landon (1094616)
3.15 ITN News headlines (9991567) 3.20 Thames News headlines (9981180) 3.25 The Young Doctors (3705513)
3.55 The Gingerbread Man. Animation. (Oracle) (s) (2279722)
4.10 8 & 8
● CHOICE: Taking a break from Inspector Morse, Kevin Whately plays a nice young architect who tangles with a very nasty property developer (Ian McEwan) in a pulsating children's drama from Lee Pressman and Grant Cartwright. Although basically a tale of heroes and villains, it is a neatly characterised drama which has Whately as an impractical widower being looked after by a more than capable daughter (Alexandra Milman). Indeed when Whately tells the Mr Nasty that his new holiday flats are tasteless and tacky and is given his cards, it is young Alice who hits on the idea of turning their house into a bed and breakfast hotel. With the help of a travelling busker (Kary Murphy) they make a promising start, but the property man wants the land and will stop at nothing to get it. All is not lost as they set up for next week's conclusion (1110703)
5.10 Home and Away (s) (Oracle) (4641190)
5.40 Early Evening News with John Suckett. (Oracle) Weather (475548)
5.55 Crime Monthly Preview (241161)
6.00 6 O'Clock Live. The first of a new series presented by Frank Bough, Joanna Sheldon and Jenn Bennett. Includes a live visit to Covent Garden for the finals of the City Sounds competition (282074)
6.55 The Day. Cycles Richard Goleen competes in a race from Clapham tube, train, taxi, bus and car (479797)
7.00 Through the Keyhole presented by David Frost. Lloyd Grossman provides the clues to the identities of celebrity owners whose homes are invaded by the cameras. On the panel this week are Willie Rushton, Patsy Collowell and Alan Coren (4819)



Tying the knot: Amanda Barrie and Johnny Briggs (7.30pm)

- 7.30 Coronation Street. Will Alma (Amanda Barrie) and Mike (Johnny Briggs) tie the knot? (Oracle) (364)
8.00 International Athletics. Live coverage of the Great Britain v Kenya contest from Edinburgh's Meadowbank stadium (5635)
9.00 Crime Monthly. Paul Ross with unsolved cases which the police in the south-east would like the viewing public to help them with. Plus a look at the policing of London's concerts and festivals (2971)
10.00 News at Ten with Julia Somerville and Carol Barnes. (Oracle) Weather (961180) 10.35 LWT News and weather (138987)
10.40 Film: Triumphs of a Man Called Horse (1983) starring Richard Harris and Michael Beck. Third and weakest in the Horse series in which the now ageing English leader of a Sioux tribe defends his people from encroaching white settlers and gold rush miners. Directed by John Hough (3352624)
12.15am Sledge Hammer. Spoof American detective series (97407)
12.45 Out of Limits. Sporting tests of endurance (5212643)
1.05 The James Whale Radio Show. Phone-in chat show with the rude and controversial host (s) (7363440)
2.10 American Gladiators. Tests of strength and ingenuity (1616594)
3.05 CinemaAttractions presented by Charlie Tuna (7550710)
3.35 News Review. Rock music videos (8728407)
4.35 Burke's Law. (b/w). Gene Barry stars in the vintage Beverly Hills police drama (5473662)
5.30 ITN Morning News with Tim Nelson (97827). Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

- 6.00 The Channel Four Daily (1675109)
9.25 Schools (84892616)
12.00 The Parliament Programme presented by Anne Perkins (35180)
12.30 Business Daily. News and analysis from the world's financial centres (s) (4703)
1.00 Sesame Street. Early learning series (52258)
2.00 I Love Lucy (b/w). Vintage comedy starring Lucille Ball (6740819)
2.35 Film: Ring of Spies (1963). (b/w) starring Bernard Lee and William Sylvester. Espionage thriller about a disgraced British diplomat drawn into a communist spy ring. Directed by Robert Tronson (1128548)
4.10 The Three Stooges in Calling All Cars (b/w) (2701987)
4.30 Fifteen to One. Fast-moving general knowledge quiz (277)
5.00 Female Parts: Just Thirteen. A group of 13-year-old girls discuss adolescence (s) (Teletext) (4432)
6.00 Blossom. Comedy series starring Mayim Bialik as a 14-year-old girl living in an otherwise all-male Los Angeles household (242)
6.30 Happy Days. Nostalgic American high school comedy set in 1950s Milwaukee. (Teletext) (722)
7.00 Channel 4 News with Jon Snow and Zennab Badawi. (Teletext) Weather (300364) 7.50 First Reaction. Apprentice prophet George Weiss makes some predictions about this year's summer solstice (413426)
8.00 Brookside. Soap set in a suburban Merseyside close. (Teletext) (s) (1109)
8.30 The Music Game hosted by Tony Slattery. The guests are Steve Wright, Nicola McAuliffe and Chris Warren-Green (s) (675172)
8.55 International Athletics 1500 Challenge presented by ITV. Great Britain v Kenya from the Meadowbank Stadium, Edinburgh (8113068)
10.00 Roseanne. Blue collar comedy starring Roseanne Arnold and John Goodman. (Teletext) (s) (43109)
10.30 Clive Anderson Talks Back. Conversation and comedy with Germaine Greer and Sir Peter Hall (s) (1069971)



Topical views: David Baddiel and Michael Gove (11.10pm)

- 11.10 A Stab in the Back. A satirical look at the week's news. With David Baddiel, Tracey MacLeod and Michael Gove (s) (247109)
11.40 Film: The Postman Always Rings Twice (1946). The Postman Always Rings Twice. Cain's bleak tale of treachery and murder had already been filmed twice (in France and Italy, curiously enough) before MGM took it up as a vehicle for Lana Turner and created a memorable example of 1940s film noir. But this is not a film of dark city streets and menacing shadows. The blackness lies in the moral tone rather than the photography which is bright, hard and cold, while Turner, with deliberate irony, is often dressed in white. The focus of the film is a shabby roadside diner where Turner falls hopelessly for drifter John Garfield and draws him into a plot to kill her elderly husband (Cecil Kellaway). The narrative drives the plotters remorselessly to their fate, helped along by a couple of ironical twists and neat touches from the director Tay Garnett. Look out particularly for Turner's lipstick (96791890)
1.45 The Twilight Zone: Nervous Man in a Four-Dollar Room (b/w). A tale of the supernatural (7881933). Ends at 2.10

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SATellite

- SKY ONE
● Via the Astra and Marquise satellites.
6.00am The DI Kat Show (1957277) 8.40 Mr Peppercorn (1256426) 8.55 Lamin Chops Play-Along (5980703) 9.30 The Pyramid Game (14100) 10.00 Let's Make a Deal (32180) 10.30 The Bold and the Beautiful (73722) 11.00 The Young and the Restless (50074) 12.00 St. Elsewhere (74320) 1.00pm 2 Street (54390) 1.30 Gekko. Play the games made famous in America by their hosts (23155) 2.30 American World (2400800) 3.15 The Brady Bunch (21040) 3.45 The DI Kat Show (4070616) 8.00 Facts of Life (6819) 9.30 Different Strokes (3074) 6.00 Live At First Sight (6687) 6.30 E Street (5557) 7.00 All At One (515) 7.30 Catfish (9451) 8.00 The Flash (58513) 9.00 W.W.F. Superstars Of Wrestling (41777) 10.00 Sports (67703) 10.30 Film: Zentor — Thing From Venus (35780)

SKY MOVIES+

- Via the Astra and Marquise satellites.
10.00 The People That Time Forgot (1977). Prehistoric adventures (1651)
12.00 The Girl from Miami (1986). A village girl moves to Athens (41884)
2.00am How to Beat the High Cost of Living (1980). Wives turn to crime (35616)
4.00 My Seventeenth Summer. A young couple fight against racism (24068)
5.00 Gemini (1987). A high school footballer discovers his own secret (7722)
6.00 Elinor Duff (1988). Inverurie adventure (2014093)
6.00 Crooks and Buns (1990). Rebels machine a huge robot (1772706)
6.00 Crocodiles (1989). A couple try to improve their neighbourhood (13616)
11.30 Wilderness (1990). Housewives who won't leave (85203)
1.00pm The Armies (1988). Modern day Robin Hood (61540)
2.00 Robin Hood (1988). A review of the film industry (25462). Ends at 4.00
4.15 The Movie Channel
● Via the Astra and Marquise satellites.
6.15am Flying Tigers (1942). John Wayne in wartime epic (313180)
8.15 Mr Forthright and the Pangloss (1971). Delgado goes to America (1984)
10.15 Block. Showdown (1989). Steve Austin and Jamie Sommers (400180)
12.15am J.L. Slaymaker — King of Jazz (1956). With Earl Reppas (50667)
2.15 The Pink Panther Strikes Again (1976). Peter Sellers plays Inspector Clouseau (762636)
4.15 Hallelujah in a Haunted House (1967). Singers find spies instead of ghosts (26216)
6.15 Waiting for the Light (1990). Shirley Maerlein as a former model (50616)
8.15 Victim of Innocence (1990). Coping with an illegitimate child (7104057)
10.15 Stockade (1990). Military drama with Martin Sheen (435703)
11.45 The Sheikering Sky (1990). Paul Bowler's classic novel (657364)
2.05am Dangerous Pursuit (1984). A girl recognizes a paid assassin (858204)
3.40 Gremlins. A Love Story (1984). A man loses three women (70001). Ends at 5.35

THE COMEDY CHANNEL

- Via the Astra and Marquise satellites.
4.00pm Mr Ed (5242) 4.30 Punky Brewster (5426) 5.00 Green Acres (1884) 5.30 The Love Life. To: Brown (2306) 6.00 Mr Belvedere (2819) 6.30 The Merv Griffin Show (2141) 7.00 F Troop (4400) 7.30 Mr. Belvedere (1955) 8.00 Ann Jillian (7068) 8.30 The Love Life. To: Brown (2306) 9.00 Mr Belvedere (2819) 9.30 The Merv Griffin Show (2141) 10.00 The Love Life. To: Brown (2306) 10.30 Mr Belvedere (2819) 11.00 Laugh In (53659) 10.30 Mr. Belvedere (2819) 11.00 Laugh In (53659)

SKY SPORTS

- Via the Astra and Marquise satellites.
6.30am Stretch (72722) 7.00 Red Line
12.45 1st Brummies 3.00 Steve Wright in the Afternoon 6.00 Mark Goodier's Mega Hits 6.30 News 9.2 7.00 Peter Tony's Essential Selection 9.00 Friday Rock Show, with Tommy Vance 11.00 John Peel 2.00am Lynn Parsons (FM only)

RADIO 1

- 12.45 1st Brummies 3.00 Steve Wright in the Afternoon 6.00 Mark Goodier's Mega Hits 6.30 News 9.2 7.00 Peter Tony's Essential Selection 9.00 Friday Rock Show, with Tommy Vance 11.00 John Peel 2.00am Lynn Parsons (FM only)

RADIO 2

- Thought 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Gloria Hunniford 3.30 Ed Stewart 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Are You Sitting Comfortably 7.20 Friday Night Is Music Night 8.00 Concert Orchestra 40th Anniversary Tour — Live from the De Montfort Hall, Leicester 9.30 Listen to the Band 10.30 Radio 2 Programme from the Barbican Centre in York. Austin Mitchell reports on the York Mystery Plays 12.30am Colin Berry with Night Tide 3.00-4.00am A Little Night Music

RADIO 5

- News and Sport on the hour to 7.00pm.
6.00am World Service: Newshour 6.30 Danny Baker's Morning Edition 9.00 For Schools: 9.15am 9.30am 9.45am 10.00am 10.15am 10.30am 10.45am 11.00am 11.15am 11.30am 11.45am 12.00pm 12.15pm 12.30pm 12.45pm 1.00pm 1.15pm 1.30pm 1.45pm 2.00pm 2.15pm 2.30pm 2.45pm 3.00pm 3.15pm 3.30pm 3.45pm 4.00pm 4.15pm 4.30pm 4.45pm 5.00pm 5.15pm 5.30pm 5.45pm 6.00pm 6.15pm 6.30pm 6.45pm 7.00pm 7.15pm 7.30pm 7.45pm 8.00pm 8.15pm 8.30pm 8.45pm 9.00pm 9.15pm 9.30pm 9.45pm 10.00pm 10.15pm 10.30pm 10.45pm 11.00pm 11.15pm 11.30pm 11.45pm 12.00pm 12.15pm 12.30pm 12.45pm 1.00pm 1.15pm 1.30pm 1.45pm 2.00pm 2.15pm 2.30pm 2.45pm 3.00pm 3.15pm 3.30pm 3.45pm 4.00pm 4.15pm 4.30pm 4.45pm 5.00pm 5.15pm 5.30pm 5.45pm 6.00pm 6.15pm 6.30pm 6.45pm 7.00pm 7.15pm 7.30pm 7.45pm 8.00pm 8.15pm 8.30pm 8.45pm 9.00pm 9.15pm 9.30pm 9.45pm 10.00pm 10.15pm 10.30pm 10.45pm 11.00pm 11.15pm 11.30pm 11.45pm 12.00pm 12.15pm 12.30pm 12.45pm 1.00pm 1.15pm 1.30pm 1.45pm 2.00pm 2.15pm 2.30pm 2.45pm 3.00pm 3.15pm 3.30pm 3.45pm 4.00pm 4.15pm 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● BUSINESS 19-25
● YOUR OWN BUSINESS 26
● INFOTECH 27

BUSINESS TIMES

FRIDAY JUNE 19 1992

BUSINESS EDITOR JOHN BELL

SPORT
28-32

Little joy in Liechtenstein for Maxwell pensioners

BY NEIL BENNETT
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

ADMINISTRATORS handling the break-up of the late Robert Maxwell's collapsed media empire say they expect to find few assets in Liechtenstein, despite the offer of help from trustees who handled Mr Maxwell's interests there.

On Wednesday, executives from Allgemains Treuhandgesellschaft, the Liechtenstein trust company, announced that the six trusts they handled for Robert Maxwell still held up to 10 million shares in Maxwell Communication Corporation and Mirror Group Newspapers, his two public companies. John Talbot, the partner from Arthur Andersen, the accountant handling the administration of more than 40 private Maxwell companies, said he had already known the details of the information given at the press conference, and the holdings are mainly either worthless or their ownership disputed.

The six stiftungen, or trusts, Alandra, Baccano, Kiara, Jungo, Corry and Akim, were used by Robert Maxwell as the main vehicle for his illegal attempt to support MCC's share price. At least four of the trusts were used to buy MCC shares through Goldman Sachs, the American investment house. At the time, Goldman was assured that the transactions were not connected with Mr Maxwell. Most of the shares went back to Mr Maxwell's private companies and used as security for further loans. MCC crashed last December, and the shares are now thought to be worthless. Only Akim is still believed to hold shares, but Andersen is claiming them.

Mr Talbot is more interested in some of the assets held through the Maxwell Foundation, the charitable trust also based in Liechtenstein, which it believes may belong to the creditors of the private companies.

One of the key companies is Pergamon Holdings US Inc, known as Phusi, which is a wholly-owned offshoot of Swico Anstalt, a Liechtenstein holding company that in turn is owned by the foundation. Andersen has taken action against Phusi under American bankruptcy laws to gain access to its financial records, after the company launched a rival claim for part of a 6 per cent stake in Newspaper Publishing, which owns *The Independent*. Swico also owns an 89 per cent stake in Sphere Inc, a software house.

Even if Andersen can claim all the remaining assets held through Liechtenstein, they will not repay more than a fraction of the £1.5 billion the private companies owe to the banks. The pension funds, MCC and MGN, Andersen has raised more than £100 million from disposals and still holds a 54.8 per cent stake in MGN, a 50 per cent holding in Thomas Cook in America, property, two jets and the yacht *Lady Ghislaine*. But the banks who lent to the private companies are still likely to face losses of up to £500 million.

Administrators welcomed the offer of help from Werner Keicher, the sole executive trustee of the Maxwell Foundation. Until now, they have been forced to piece together the role of Maxwell's Liechtenstein trusts by documents recovered and interviews with solicitors in America and Britain. They need more documentary evidence, and so far have failed to pierce Liechtenstein's strict banking secrecy laws.

Maxwells arrested, page 1
Full charges, background, pages 4 and 5
Young lions, page 14

TODAY IN BUSINESS

MARKET BLUES



Mid-summer blues knocked London markets down 35 points after overnight falls on Tokyo and Wall Street were compounded by a profits warning from ICI and the aborted flotation of GPA.

Page 22

BOARD CHANGES

Brent Walker hopes to announce the name of his new chairman next month. Meanwhile, 1991 pre-tax losses more than doubled to £387.3 million.

Page 20

OFF TARGET

Sewer Trent Water

Sewer Trent's management did not meet performance targets for a full incentive bonus in the year end March. Page 20

TOMORROW

PROFILE

Sir Colin Chandler, the chief executive of Vickers, bursts into song, tells one joke after another, then admits that he is always ruthless in business.

SWEET CHARITY

Weekend Money explains how donors can make the most of gifts to charity so that any shortfall is made up by the tax system.

THE POUND

US dollar 1.8655 (+0.0073)
German mark 2.9186 (-0.0066)
Exchange index 83.1 (+0.1)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share 1988.4 (-33.7)
FT-SE 100 2582.7 (-35.7)
New York Dow Jones 2789.93 (-8.83)
Tokyo Nikkei Ave 16045.58 (-400.24)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base: 10%
3-month interbank 10.8 1/2%
3-month eligible bills 9 1/2%
US Prime Rate 6 1/2%
Federal Funds 3 1/4%
3-month Treasury 8 1/2% 3.60-3.65%
30-year bonds 10 1/2-10 3/4%

CURRENCIES

London: New York
£: \$1.8655
£: DM1.5645
£: Sfr1.4131
£: FF9.354
£: Yen128.72
£: Index82.1
ECU10.701477 SDR20.759988
£: ECU1.425583 £: SDR1.315910

GOLD

London Fixing: AM \$340.90 pm \$341.25
Close \$341.90-342.40 (£182.80-183.30)
New York: COMEX \$341.45-341.95

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Ld) \$21.25 bid (\$21.25)

RETAIL PRICES

RPI: 139.3 May (1987=100)
* Denotes monthly trading price

GPA flotation withdrawal shakes markets

BY MARTIN WALLER

THE \$3.5 billion flotation of GPA Group, the Irish aircraft leasing company and the biggest business due to come to the stock market this year, has been withdrawn, sending shock waves through the equity markets and raising doubts about other planned cash-raising exercises now in train.

As late as Wednesday night, GPA's advisers were indicating that the issue would go ahead. But it appears that the level of interest, particularly on Wall Street, was far lower than had been indicated.

The flotation was always expected to be a difficult one, and GPA's advisers had faced an uphill struggle selling shares in a company dependent on the battered world airline industry. The failure of the float is a humiliating blow for Nomura International, the giant Japanese trading house that was global co-ordinator to the offering. GPA will bear the cost of £8 million to £9 million of fixed expenses already committed to the float, but Nomura and the other financial advisers will have to forgo fees totalling £23 million.

Tony Ryan, chairman and founder of GPA, said the pulling of the issue was disappointing. "However, timing and adverse market conditions in the major financial centres were against us and I am satisfied that the right thing to do is to recognise this."

Mr Ryan said the intention was to go for a public listing "at the earliest practical opportunity". But Maurice Foley, chief executive, conceded that any further issue might have to be less ambitious.

The GPA issue came to grief because the 85 million shares on offer attracted investors interested in buying only 50 million of them. Least interested were big American financial houses and City institutions.

Given the need to have a few willing investors in reserve to drive demand, advisers accept that the level of interest would barely have supported a float half the intended size. In Tokyo, where demand was strong, 23 million of the 30 million shares on offer were taken up. America, Britain and Ireland, offered 50 million shares, would take fewer than 15 million between them.

GPA blames the disaster on world equity markets, particularly the American market, which has turned unresponsive to new public share offers — and on conditions in the American airline industry. A price war between American airlines has broken out since marketing of GPA got under way and American investors have become fearful of exposure to the sector.

The advisers say dissatisfaction fed back to British institutions, which shunned the issue when they realised it would lack essential American support.

The GPA camp had alleged strong demand from New York and had raised the size of the issue by five million shares on the back of this. Mr Foley said this had been done on the advice of the underwriting syndicate. "It is odd with the events of the past couple of days," he admitted.

The withdrawal of the GPA issue was seen as a further blow to the world airline industry, which could now face a credit crunch in its bid to climb out of recession. It also raised concern over other forthcoming cash-raising, including one by Wellcome worth as much as £4 billion. This is planned for next month and follows a similar structure to GPA's, with an international tender offering. Philip Bradley, of Robert Fleming & Co, the global co-ordinator, was keen to draw a distinction. "Wellcome is an internationally recognised quality growth company in a recognisable investment sector," he said from New York. Investors there had shown "a very warm feeling" towards the pharmaceutical group.

Earnings slow as jobless rises

BY ROSS TYMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE year-on-year increase in average weekly earnings fell to 7 per cent in April, the smallest rise for 25 years, as unemployment continued to climb.

Employment department officials said the figures, released yesterday, reflected a sharp fall in the level of pay settlements. Productivity in manufacturing during the three months to April was 2.1 per cent up on the previous quarter, and 4.7 per cent higher than a year ago.

The trend on pay and productivity suggests a strong reaction to the steep fall in inflation, now running at 4.3 per cent a year, and to rising unemployment. The number out of work rose by 21,300, seasonally adjusted, during May to reach 2.71 million.

Unemployment has climbed by 1.12 million, or 70 per cent, since recession first became apparent in the jobless figures in April 1990.

But the average increase in seasonally adjusted unemployment during the latest three months, at 23,900, shows a sharp fall from the 33,600 recorded over the past six months, suggesting that the rate of job losses is at last slowing. Although the figures give no clues about the timing or strength of any economic recovery, they show that the labour market has responded far more to this recession than to the downturn of the early 1980s.

According to employment department officials, that is partly because the South East and services, which escaped lightly last time, have shared the pain since 1990.

Manufacturing continues to bear the brunt of job losses, though. In April, the number of manufacturing workers fell by 16,000 to 4.53 million.

Last month, employment department statistics revised the March earnings rise figure up by 4 per cent to 7.5 per cent. That estimate has subsequently been revised back to 7.4 per cent.

Employment department officials said a rush of bonus payments ahead of the election, a sharp rise in March overtime and the timing of Easter appeared to have distorted earlier figures.

The underlying rate of earnings increases in manufacturing, they said, could now be as low as 6.4 per cent.

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Both companies were thought to have bid too much during the franchise round. Yesterday Mr Leach said the merger was not a result of overbids but was intended to take advantage of cost savings, elimination of duplicate broadcasting to 650,000 viewers in the York and Harrogate areas who see Yorkshire and Tyne Tees, and the prospect of stronger advertising revenues. Yorkshire-Tyne Tees hopes it can push its share of the national revenue to 16 per cent.

Yorkshire holds 19 per cent of Tyne Tees and is offering 17 of its shares for 10 Tyne Tees shares. A bonus issue of warrants to Yorkshire shareholders is proposed. Tyne Tees shares rose 34p to 263p and Yorkshire's fell 7p to 169p valuing Tyne Tees at £29.9 million.

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Yorkshire zooms in on Geordie lads

BY GEORGE SIVELL

WHISPER it on Tyneside, but Yorkshire Television is making an agreed £30 million share bid for Tyne Tees, its northern neighbour and rival, unwinding the divestment ordered by the old Independent Broadcasting Authority in 1982 and creating a group that will broadcast to one sixth of the British audience.

The bid has been approved by the Independent Television Commission which has used section 21 of the Broadcasting Act to break the moratorium imposed on mergers among the new regional franchise holders until the end of 1993.

Sir George Russell, the ITC chairman, said: "The commission has approved this merger primarily because of the specific benefits to viewers... our approval of this agreed merger between neighbouring channel three licensees does not imply that approval will be forthcoming for any other mergers or takeovers during the remainder of the moratorium."

Clive Leach, managing director of Yorkshire and chief executive designate of the combined group, said: "Operating costs will be looked at ruthlessly. We are prepared to close down any part of the business not making an effective contribution." He would not say how many of Yorkshire's 800 staff and Tyne Tees's 300 would lose their jobs, or how much the cost cuts would be.

At the channel three franchise round, Tyne Tees bid an annual £15.1 million plus 2 per cent of advertising revenue. Yorkshire offered £37.7 million plus 7 per cent of revenue. The new group will pay combined totals but

both companies were thought to have bid too much during the franchise round. Yesterday Mr Leach said the merger was not a result of overbids but was intended to take advantage of cost savings, elimination of duplicate broadcasting to 650,000 viewers in the York and Harrogate areas who see Yorkshire and Tyne Tees, and the prospect of stronger advertising revenues. Yorkshire-Tyne Tees hopes it can push its share of the national revenue to 16 per cent.

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Sympathy without salvage: David Coleridge in the shadow of Lloyd's of London, of which he is chairman

Lloyd's rejects bail-out for names

BY JON ASHWORTH

THOUSANDS of stricken names had their hopes dashed yesterday when Lloyd's of London rejected calls for a financial lifeline to rescue them from massive debts.

The failure to agree an emergency funding package sent shock waves through the insurance market and will trigger multiple law suits from names who are determined to fight Lloyd's to the bitter end.

Proposals to bail out names were thrown out at a meeting of the Lloyd's council on Wednesday. David Coleridge, chairman of Lloyd's, has written to members explaining that it had not been possible to find a way of capping losses from previous years. "The council has the greatest sympathy for those who have suffered losses, but it has reluctantly concluded that there is no viable scheme to alleviate those losses."

Losses for the 1989 year alone are expected to reach £2 billion. There is no question of drawing on Lloyd's central fund to bail out names. The fund, which is being doubled in size from £500 million to £1 billion through a levy on names, will be used to guarantee payments to policyholders in circumstances where members are unable to pay.

As an olive branch to the 5,000 names who will bear the brunt of the losses, Lloyd's is asking brokers and underwriters to put up an underwritten amount of money to assist names on the brink of ruin. Lloyd's proposes to make it easier for names to seek such assistance. The

Hardship Committee has received 1,100 submissions, 39 offers have been accepted. In an attempt to attract new members, Lloyd's has capped losses at a maximum of 80 per cent of gross premium limit from 1993 onwards.

The move will not mark an end to unlimited liability for members. It will simply cap it and make up the remainder from a new fund to be paid out of levies from next year.

The proposals were greeted with fury. Richard Astor, a

barrister who acts on behalf of numerous names, described the measures as a "smokescreen" to distract people from the real issues. "The names now have absolutely no way out and a vast mass of litigation will follow," he said. "They have nothing to lose in seeking to destroy Lloyd's."

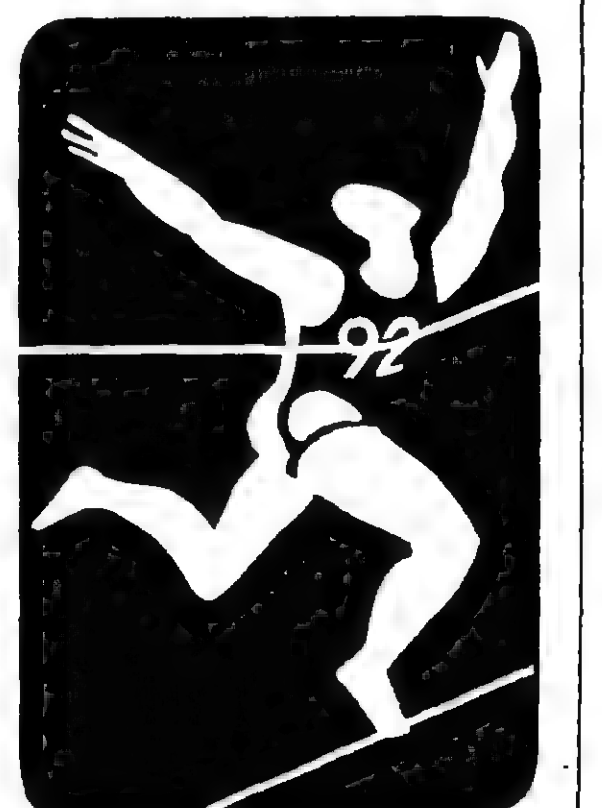
Mark Farrer, chairman of the Association of Lloyd's Members, said he was "disappointed" that no rescue scheme had been found. He

called on the market to "contribute meaningfully" to the problems that it created. Christopher Stockwell, who represents the many action groups set up by distressed names, said: "This will mean a great wave of litigation which will do immense damage to the reputation of Lloyd's."

Names are expected to be out in force for Lloyd's annual meeting on Wednesday.

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Provisions push Brent Walker to deeper loss

By ANGELA MACKAY

BRENT Walker, the public houses and betting group, totted up a negative net worth of £455.8 million last year after the company provided £217 million for exceptional and extraordinary items to try and cover likely contingencies on the long road to recovery.

Lord Kindersley, who became chairman after George Walker, the company's founder, stepped down last year, announced his retirement yesterday. He and Ken Scobie, the chief executive, guided the debt-laden group through its negotiations with banks and bondholders owed £1.5 billion.

Lord Kindersley said his period of crisis management was over and that the search for a new chairman and two or three non-executive directors was well advanced. He hoped the appointments would be announced at the annual meeting next month, when Alan Clements, the former finance director of ICI who was a non-executive director of Brent Walker during the restructuring, will also step down.

Lord Kindersley said George Walker's suit against the company for wrongful dismissal was still pending, while the Serious Fraud Office's investigation continued. That enquiry had widened beyond the original issues, he added.

The company's restructuring, which started on March 30, focuses on the growth of the William Hill betting shops and the Pubmaster hotels chain, while remaining interests will be sold.

Brent Walker's group operating profit of £48.3 million was just under half of that in 1990 even though turnover

was only 10 per cent lower at £1.58 billion. Interest charges of £235 million (£116 million), as well as the exceptional and extraordinary items, pushed the group to a £410 million loss (£358 million loss).

Brent Walker's finances crumbled under burgeoning debt, falling property values and a widespread belief that George Walker paid too much for William Hill. The cost of refinancing the group is almost £40 million so far, and Lord Kindersley said the group was still paying fees related to the restructuring and bank supervision of the company's progress.

Mr Scobie said the group hoped to add 1,000 public houses to Pubmaster by the end of the year, taking its total properties to 3,000. William Hill, he added, was still suffering from the economic downturn, although trading in the first six months this year was better than that last year.

Lord Kindersley said about £136 million of the exceptional items related to the fall in value of development land and properties such as Puerto Sherry in Spain, Brighton Marina and the Londonderry Hotel. The company believes, however, that this is an accounting adjustment rather than a permanent fall in value because the banks and bondholders, which have taken shares in return for part of the group's debt, are giving Brent Walker time to make orderly asset sales over the next two years.

The company must still sell its other businesses, and although progress has been made, Britain's depressed economy made the task difficult, Lord Kindersley said.



Stepping up: John Bellak, chairman of Severn Trent, has declared a dividend rise

Severn Trent turns on the profits tap

By GRAHAM SEARJEANT, FINANCIAL EDITOR

SEVERN Trent increased pre-tax profits by 6.4 per cent to £265 million in the year to end March, despite a £10 million loss of profit from the effect of recession on measured supplies and disappointing results from Biffa, the solid waste management company it bought at a cost of £214 million last year.

The dividend rises 10 per cent to 19.3p, from earnings up 5.7 per cent to 68.2p per share but total boardroom pay fell slightly. Management did not meet all performance targets for a full incentive bonus.

Biffa contributed £11 million, equivalent to £12.5 million for a full year, compared with £16 million net of property profits in the preceding year. This reflects the recession, not least in the building trade, as well as changes in accounting treatments. Financing costs were about £25 million. Severn Trent no longer expects Biffa to meet its financing costs this year, but John Bellak, the chairman, said he was happy with the purchase because Biffa was meant to be a long-term investment in building a solid waste division.

In the main utility business, turnover increased by 14 per cent to £692 million, reflecting a 1 per cent drop in metered volume, but kept the rise in operating costs down to 9 per cent. The group spent almost £600 million on capital spending, up 50 per cent, but spending has now peaked, Roderick Paul, the chief executive, said the utility was slightly ahead of its planned capital spending targets and had achieved more for the same money than budgeted.

Commissioning of the £107 million Carsington reservoir has left the utility with adequate water supplies to avoid shortages. The group does not anticipate asking for any increase in price limits to accommodate extra spending imposed since privatisation.

Mr Bellak said the utility business was in a strong position because it had the highest profits in the sector but the lowest water prices and the lowest combined water and sewage charges except for Thames. It has also had good reports from regulators on water purity, effluent compli-

ance and improvements in customer service.

Mr Bellak said it was unlikely that general metering, as a means of payment after the system based on rateable values ends, could justify the extra costs in terms of any savings of expenditure on water resources. "Personally, I think the economics of metering do not work," he said.

He noted that the Carsington scheme had added 10 per cent to capacity and that an early study by Severn Trent suggested that reducing consumption 10 per cent by metering could cost about £600 million in its area, though that figure could be subject to wide variations.

Comment, page 23

Widest US trade gap since November 1990

AMERICA'S trade gap widened by 24.8 per cent in April to \$6.97 billion, the biggest shortfall since November 1990. Exports dropped by 1.9 per cent, while imports grew by 1.6 per cent to reach the highest monthly level for 18 months. The politically sensitive deficit with Japan widened by 5.6 per cent to \$5.6 billion. The surplus with western Europe slumped 73 per cent to \$611 million.

Other data were more encouraging. New claims for unemployment benefit edged down to 407,000 during the first week in June, from 409,000 a week earlier. Financial difficulties arising from the recession still dog Americans, however. The percentage of consumers behind on loan repayments in the first quarter jumped from 2.67 per cent to 2.75 per cent, the highest level for two-and-a-half years.

Chloride suffers slide

CHLORIDE, the restructured electronics group that sold its industrial batteries business to Hawker Siddeley in March last year, yesterday turned in pre-tax profits of £588,000 (£5 million) for the year to end-March. Again there is no dividend. Losses per share increased to 1.3p (0.9p), but the shares rose 0.25p to 11.75p. Sales fell to £110 million (£216 million). Chloride said it expected to sell its share of a sodium sulphur battery development partnership with RWE, the German power generator. Chloride does not expect any significant gain or loss from the sale.

Shorts to cut 400 jobs

SHORTS, the aerospace company based in Belfast, is to shed almost 400 jobs by the end of the year. The redundancies were blamed on recession and the imminent end to production of the Sherpa cargo plane. Shorts employs 8,200 people in Northern Ireland, 1,000 more than when it was privatised in 1989. A spokeswoman said it was hoped that most of the losses would involve people taking early retirement or voluntary redundancy. Seasonally-adjusted unemployment in Northern Ireland rose by 500 to 105,000, 14.4 per cent of the workforce, in May.

Delta buys BTR stake

DELTA, an engineering and electrical cable group, is paying BTR, the industrial conglomerate, £37 million for its 36 per cent interest in the Delta Crompton Cables joint venture. DCC was formed in 1988 by the merger of Delta's cable business with that of Hawker Siddeley. Delta owning 64 per cent and Hawker Siddeley the remainder. The buyout follows BTR's takeover of Hawker Siddeley. Pre-tax profits attributable to BTR's stake in DCC were £2.7 million in 1991. The net value of assets being acquired is £34.2 million.

GEI maintains payout

GEI International, the packaging and processing machinery group, is maintaining the annual dividend at 7.32p a share, paying an unchanged final of 4.85p, despite suffering a slump in pre-tax profits to £3.11 million (£5.57 million) in the year to end-March. Second half profits rose to £2.6 million (£2.46 million) but failed to fully offset the setback experienced in the first six months. Earnings fell from 9.7p a share to 6.7p. Operating profits were £3.89 million (£5.69 million) on turnover virtually unchanged at £77.9 million.

Tempus, page 22

Severn Trent Preliminary Results

For the year ended 31 March 1992

"We have achieved the highest investment programme in the industry the lowest average charge for water and again been the most profitable of the ten privatised water and sewerage companies"

John Bellak, Chairman. 18 June 1992

- Secure water resources
- Highest profit, highest investment, lowest water charge
- Waste management and other non-regulated business developing well

	1992	1991	Increase
TURNOVER	£822m	£627m	31%
OPERATING PROFIT	£261m	£197m	32%
PROFIT BEFORE TAX	£265m	£249m	6.4%
EARNINGS PER SHARE	68.2p	64.5p	5.7%
TOTAL DIVIDEND PER SHARE	19.3p	17.55p	10%

The 1992 results are unaudited. A copy of the Annual Report and Accounts will be posted to shareholders in mid July 1992 and thereafter may be obtained from: The Director of Corporate Communications, Severn Trent plc, 2297 Coventry Road, Birmingham B36 3PU



FKI holds final as profit slips

By PHILIP PANGALOS

FKI, the electrical products and engineering group, is maintaining its final dividend despite a 23.9 per cent decline in pre-tax profits to £30.5 million in the year to end-March. The group, which depends on United Kingdom and North American markets for 87 per cent of its business, saw turnover dip 4.8 per cent to £739 million as disposals, closures and recession took their toll.

Jeff Whalley, chairman, says the reorganisation programme is largely complete and any remaining losses will be eliminated this year. About £5 million was spent on rationalisation last year and a further £3 million is likely this year. Net losses on the sale of businesses led to an £8.99 million extraordinary charge, although net borrowings are down to £60 million (£84 million). Assets sales of a further £40 million are planned.

Earnings fell to 4.88p (6.71p) a share, but the final dividend is maintained at 1.3p, giving 2.3p (3.3p) for the year. Mr Whalley expects FKI's earnings to more than double over the next few years, although dividend is unlikely to match this rate of growth. The shares eased 2p to 77p.

Tempus, page 22

Borrowing surge peters out

By COLIN NARBROUGH
ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

OFFICIAL money supply figures issued yesterday made clear that the post-election surge in borrowing in April petered out last month, suggesting that the economy is only edging its way forward sluggishly. The provisional Bank of England data showed a rise of £3 billion in the bank and building society lending element of M4, the broad money aggregate. This was sharply lower than the surprise £5.1 billion rise in April. The May figure was, however, above the £2.3 billion the City had expected. The rise in bank lending is expected to stabilise at about £2 billion in the months ahead.

The officially targeted narrow money measure, M0, largely made up of bank notes and coins, only grew by a seasonally adjusted 0.1 per cent in May, about half the City's forecast, compared with an 0.4 per cent rise in April. This increased the annual rate from 2.3 to 2.5 per cent.

The money data reflected the sharp, but short-lived rise in consumer confidence after the Conservative win.

The underlying rise in lending by the leading banks to the private sector was £2.2 billion in May (£2.6 billion in April), according to the British Bankers' Association.

Power firm leaps to £94m despite recession

Manweb sparkles in first full year

By OUR CITY STAFF

MANWEB, the regional electricity company, raised pre-tax profits from £58.9 million to £94.7 million in the year to end March, its first full year as a public company.

Analysts attributed the rise to a spin-off from the regulatory regime imposed on the distribution companies and cost cuts. Around 2,000 workers have gone in 18 months from Manweb, leaving 4,500. More, but not so radical efficiencies, will be sought in the current year.

Shareholders receive a rise in the final dividend from 11.20p to 12.80p making a total of 18.25p for the year. The shares fell 2p to 342p.

Sales rose 0.6 per cent to £834.6 million despite reduced industrial consumption, caused by recession and



Roberts optimism

the loss of some supply business. John Roberts, Manweb chief executive, said: "The recession has affected the region but appears not to be

deepening further and there are some limited signs of optimism. Manweb has not suffered any major impact from recent economic problems and is well positioned to benefit from an upturn in economic activity."

Manweb also has a strong balance sheet. Net borrowings have been cut to £56.4 million or just 13.3 per cent of shareholders funds.

The supply business, however, suffered a loss of £5.3 million. It is low margin and high turnover and suffered from minor fluctuations in the purchase price of electricity. Appliance retailing, suffered from recession. Contracting managed an increase in sales of 13 per cent but margins were squeezed because of intense competition for large contracts. Distribution profits

were £106.3 million, 83.3 per cent up on last year. The total sale of distribution units decreased slightly to 17.4 million. Domestic and commercial units distributed rose by 2.4 per cent and 2.5 per cent respectively with industrial units falling by 3.5 per cent.

Bryan Weston, the chairman, said: "We have had a very encouraging year and have achieved the level of profits required to fund the investment in the network and other parts of the business needed to improve customer service. By focusing on our businesses we have secured reductions in operating costs of well over £16 million which has enabled us to keep price rises in 1992 well below the rate of inflation."

Tempus, page 22

24 UNIT TRUST PRICES

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

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MAJOR INDICES

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Portfolio

PLATINUM

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Claimants should ring 0254-533

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204	300 Abbott Lab	409		2.7
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2.0	19.0	100	99	Hickling, Prusa	100	99	-	4	3.4	5.0
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154						

WATER

56.73	424	301	Shura Water	398	-3	177	9.9	6.6
...	451	308	South West	395	-2	7.3	8.0	...
...	449	324	Wichitas Water	415	-1	6.2	7.8	...
5.4	481	357	Wichita Water	426	-1	...	6.8	...
12.3	471	358	Wichita Water	485	-5	17.7	4.9	7.7
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Source: Fitch IBCA.

... = **US\$**. * = **Price at suspension**. † = **Ex dividend**. ‡ = **Ex scrip**. † ‡ = **Ex rights issue**. † Ex all. ‡ = **Ex capital distribution**. * = **Figures or report available**.

INFOTECH TIMES

Gazing into the 21st century

Exotic technology that may have seemed possible only in science fiction films may soon be available.

Nick Nuttall reports

The vision in the crystal ball is taking hold at British Telecom's Marlesham Laboratory near Ipswich, Suffolk, where a team of biologists, artists, engineers and industrial designers is gazing into the 21st century.

Engaging the team are exotic subjects such as matter transport, computers that chat, keep in touch, and update each other unaided by flesh and blood operators, and low-maintenance telecommunications networks that are self-organising.

Peter Cochrane, head of the laboratory's recently formed systems research division, takes his cue from science fiction. In the 1960s, he points out, Captain James T Kirk and his pals on the starship Enterprise used hand-held voice communicators.

"In the past decade we have realised... that mobile communications are already ubiquitous on a national scale and clearly could be expanded on a global scale," he says, reflecting on the explosion in everything from cellular phones to concepts such as Iridium, the satellite system that might offer pocket phone communications on a Nile felucca or in the Australian outback.

Other more futuristic developments are also emerging, fuelled by the almost irresistible advances in electronics and computing. Professor Cochrane, visiting professor at Essex and Southampton universities, believes that in ten years we can expect machines 1,000 times more powerful than today. By 2010 there could be a super computer as powerful as the human brain. Data storage, too, is progressing at such a rate that

within a few decades the cost per bit could effectively be zero. Professor Cochrane imagines that in the next century a person's history, complete with holiday snaps, classroom daubings and other bric-a-brac, from birth to retirement, could be carried on a storage cube no bigger than a modern pager.

At present, mankind exploits only about 0.005 per cent of the communications spectrum, but the development of fibre optics, optical amplifiers and other loom-ing technologies could soon boost the exploitable bandwidth above the 50,000 to 60,000 gigahertz range.

Transmission losses are also becoming negligible and all-ready. Professor Cochrane says, "we are seeing people doing experiments with bit rates of 10 gigabits over 1,000,000 kilometres of amplifying fibre".

Given such huge advances and sharply falling costs, Professor Cochrane believes that some emerging technologies such as virtual reality and telepresence — a technology that allows, for example, doctors to carry out an operation from a distance — could become commonplace.

Virtual reality (VR) at the moment involves wearing a headset and glove to enter a computer-generated world. Professor Cochrane envisages such crude systems being replaced in the new millennium by images relayed directly on to the eye via, say, smart contact lenses. Here engineers and designers in different centres, linked by telecommunication networks, could wander around a computer-generated engine.

VR technology is expected to be ready for home use within



Looking ahead: Professor Peter Cochrane with mini TV camera at the BT laboratory

five years. Eventually an FA Cup final at Wembley might have a VR terminal in the stands relaying the match back to millions of viewers at home. The terminal with a full, 360-degree-angled, fish-eye lens could be accessed and controlled by viewers swiping their credit card through a home terminal.

Telepresence could also become widespread. By inserting a probe with mini-cameras into a person's stomach, two surgeons thousands of miles

away could study and control a scalpel to excise a growth. Professor Cochrane's predictions echo those made by Robert Ballard, of Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, in the United States. He believes hire companies might

have robot vehicles, with sound and vision systems, on Mars or under the sea which people can control from living rooms via satellites to experience places too far or dangerous for physical travel.

Delivering all these potential developments effectively will, Professor Cochrane concedes, test the ingenuity of network operators to ensure they can cope effectively. Switching systems may need to be transferred to the home or office.

Some form of matter transport, the most outrageous form of which was used to beam Star Trek crew members from the ship to a planet, might be possible in the next century. Although disassembling, transporting and reassembling someone might require 10 million modern power stations, a telecommunications network operating at 100 gigabits per second could transmit the important information stored in someone's brain.

"Perhaps one day we will be able to access the brain direct and move our mind from one place to another to have an experience," he says.

On line betting

Those unable to get to Royal Ascot for the races this week, are increasingly turning to telephone betting.

Although small when compared with high street betting, the big bookmakers see it as a way of counteracting the decline in high street betting shops which have fallen from 30,000 in the 1960s to about 9,000 today. Nick Nuttall writes.

Telephone bets, in which punters use a debit card such as Switch or Delta to pay, does, however, present unique and worrying technical and administrative headaches.

Bill Haygarth, information services director at William Hill, the high street bookmaker, says: "It is a capacity planner's nightmare, as we get

a peak in the last two to three minutes before the off of every televised race."

On Grand National day last year the computer crashed, forcing the staff to take bets manually but losing William Hill revenue on their best business day of the year.

The company has installed a Stratus fault-tolerant computer, in which every processor, circuit and wadger is duplicated and each transaction done twice, in time for Ascot.

Mr Haygarth accepts that the costs of such a computer are up to 50 per cent more than for a traditional system, but believes that it is vital for his company's peace of mind.

"In our business there is little brand loyalty," he says. "All a customer wants is to get his bet in."



Safe bet: Marling, at 8-11, winning at Ascot this week

'By 2010, a computer could be unveiled as powerful as the brain'

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No.1 in Mobile Communications



Lobby for fair copy

UNFAIR leasing contracts in the photocopying industry are causing a growing number of complaints from businesses, charities, schools and churches, according to the Campaign to Clean Up Copier Contracts.

The campaign, whose committee includes MPs, consumer affairs specialists and representatives of trade bodies, hopes to introduce legislation to amend the Consumer Credit Act and the Unfair Contract Terms Act and is lobbying the European Commission to introduce tougher legislation.

Phone fuel

RESEARCHERS at the Florida Institute of Technology are running ten trucks using fuel

made from recycled telephone directories, providing a new twist to the slogan, "Let your fingers do the walking".

Bill South, co-sponsors of the project, collected 58,000 tons of old phone books in its

nine-state service area last year — enough to make 2.9 million gallons of fuel.

Five pounds of wastepaper yields about a pint of the fuel, so a typical big-city Yellow Pages, at about 4.25 pounds, yields enough fuel to take a truck about 1.5 miles.

The chemical, methyltetrahydrofuran, is made by treating wastepaper with acid and steam, then adding hydrogen.

Clone cloning

HARD on the heels of IBM, the American computer giant Compaq has announced a range of cheap personal computers. Ironically, in the 1980s Compaq was one of the first companies to offer clones of IBM PCs. However, like IBM, it has suffered recently from ever cheaper competition, often from the Far East.

Unlike IBM, however, which is distancing itself from its Ambra subsidiary selling cheap computers, Compaq is keeping its name on the new machines, which start at £550 for a desktop, £1,000 for a portable and £3,700 for a colour notebook, excluding VAT.

Disc dispute

THE European Commission is to examine imports of compact disc players from Taiwan, Singapore and Malaysia after European producers said they were being dumped in the EC.

The investigation follows claims from Denmark's Bang & Olufsen, Germany's Grundig and Holland's Philips that the flood of cheap imports was cutting into their sales.



made from recycled telephone directories, providing a new twist to the slogan, "Let your fingers do the walking".

Bill South, co-sponsors of the project, collected 58,000 tons of old phone books in its

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Holmes will emerge a rich loser from the clash of the heavyweights

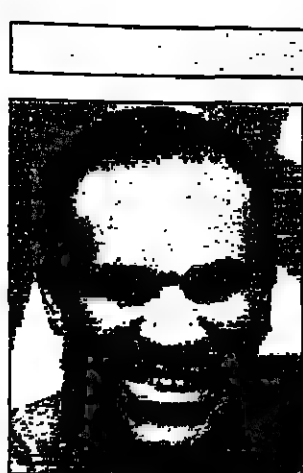
Holyfield in better shape to win

FROM SRIKUMAR SEN
BOXING CORRESPONDENT
IN LAS VEGAS

LARRY Holmes' chances of becoming the first over-40 to regain the world heavyweight champion by upsetting Evander Holyfield here tonight are slim. After all, how can a former champion, twice retired, aged 42, and now a businessman, stand up to a champion in the peak of his career?

But such is the smell of sanction fees that it even makes boxing's world bodies give validity to a contest undertaken by Holmes simply to make money. Such is the spell of big-time boxing that despite Holmes having very little strength, stamina and sharpness and is close to running on empty, experts balk at giving the former champion no chance at all. Perhaps they feel it is best not to rule out the chances of the old man's "smarts" prevailing over the power of the champion 13 years younger.

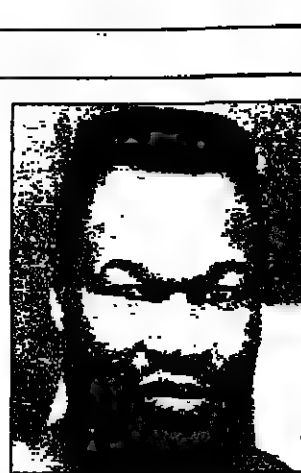
Businessmen in this town are more realistic. Robert Walker, the race and sports book director of the Stardust, thinks that the bout is bad for boxing. "It's a sad statement



TALE OF THE TAPE

Holyfield	Age	Holmes
23	42	
15ft 10in	16ft 5in	
6ft 2in	6ft 2in	
77lb	81lb	
46in	43in	
49in	49in	
17in	15in	
13in	13in	
23in	23in	
13in	13in	
19in	17in	
7in	6in	
12in	12in	
10in	10in	

Holyfield: 27 wins (22 inside the distance), 0 defeats
Holmes: 54 wins (37 inside the distance), 3 defeats



around guys like Ali, Frazier and Norton. I have got moves Holyfield has never seen."

Holmes believes that Holyfield will be open to the right counter. "I've seen him in trouble several times against George Foreman and Bert Cooper," Holmes said, "and I am a better fighter than Foreman and a much better fighter than Cooper."

Despite these claims Holmes, who could get off the floor to win in the old days, does not take punches too well any more. The blows from Tyson did him no good at all. Mercer had him in trouble with the first solid blow of the contest.

Holyfield should win inside the distance or on points, but much will depend on how soon Holmes's stamina is spent. If he starts to puff Holyfield will "take him out", but if he gets his second wind Holyfield could have his work cut out and be trailing at the end. I expect a good sharp opening from Holmes, but the third or fourth round for the old man to be adopting spoiling tactics and looking to survive. It is unlikely that he will stay beyond the sixth. □ Sky Sport will be showing the championship contest live.

when we have to go to a guy who has been beaten to death and has to come out of retirement to fight for the heavyweight championship. What does it say for boxing?"

Very little. If Holyfield wins they will say he beat a "bum". If Holmes wins it will totally devalue the heavyweight title. For Holmes was wiped out in four rounds by Mike Tyson.

But Holmes the businessman, having negotiated a good deal — \$7 million for the purse and another \$3 million for "future rights to services" — is enjoying the scene. The man who reigned for

seven years as world champion and almost beat Rocky Marciano's record of 49 wins in a row, said: "There's nothing happened in the ring that's not happened to me. I've been hit so bad that the air was sent out of my body. I've been knocked down and I've seen people's camera flashes. Holyfield hasn't had all that happen to him. How is he going to react when all that happens to him?"

A misshapen Holmes, a bit like the shape of the pregnant man in the anti-smoking advertisement weighed in at 233lb (16st 9lb), 11lb heavier than when he beat Ray Mercer, the WBO champion, last February. Holyfield looking in tremendous shape, scaled 210lb (15st).

Holyfield's trainer, George Benton, was delighted with Holmes's weight. Benton doesn't expect the Holmes legs to carry him beyond three or four rounds. He said: "Holmes is going to be playing checkers, but we all know his legs are not what they used to be. Once he's hurt, Holyfield will jump on him."

Holmes's reply to that is: "I don't need trainers like George Benton. I've been

HOCKEY

Injuries force changes in Olympic build-up

INTERNATIONAL competition returns today to Milton Keynes, where at Woughton-on-the-Green, the British men and women continue their preparation for the Olympic Games (Sydney Friskin writes).

Over the next three days the men will face Egypt, Spain and Germany in a tournament billed as the Milton Keynes Challenge. The women will play France today and on Sunday.

Injuries have caused late changes in the men's team, with Mayer replacing Kerly and Davis coming in for Bachelor, who has been withdrawn because of a groin strain. Bachelor expects to be fit for the two matches against Spain at Terrassa, the Olympic venue, later this month.

Jackie McWilliams, who has been out through injury, returns to the British women's squad for the matches against France.

ROWING

Henley avoids Olympic fallout

BY MIKE ROSEWELL

FEARS of a smaller than usual Henley Regatta, because of the approaching Olympic Games, were dispelled yesterday when the stewards announced a record entry of 505 crews. The overseas entry of 89 has only once been surpassed. "Quite extraordinary," was how Peter Coni, the regatta chairman, described the numbers. Qualifying races will be required in 11 of the 15 events.

The United States, with 30

crews, provides the largest overseas team. There are four entries from the new Russian federation, and South African rowers return to the event.

Trident, the South African Olympic eight, will be one of seven crews in the Grand, which will also be contested by the German and British lightweight eights who finished first and third in Lucerne last weekend.

An entry of 53 for the Diamond Sculls will be re-

duced to 16 by qualifying races. Rorie Henderson, who has failed to achieve Olympic selection, spearheads the British challenge. Paul Reedy, of Melbourne University, will be hoping to continue Australia's enviable record in this event and Brendon Dolan, Ireland's new lightweight sculler, who reached the Lucerne final, is also on the list.

The new event for junior quads has attracted 18 entries, one of them from Sweden.

Huntingdon completes Gold Cup double

Drum Taps survives attack to take glory

BY RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT

DRUM Taps defied the breeding pundits and an attempted attack from Arcadian Heights to land the Gold Cup in tremendous style at Royal Ascot yesterday.

The victory provided Lord Huntingdon with a marvellous double in the premier race of the meeting, following his success last year with Indian Queen, and elevated the West Lisley trainer to the elite of his profession.

As the six runners lined up for the gruelling two-and-a-half mile group one race, the main doubt surrounding Drum Taps was his ability to stay the distance. In the end the much-travelled six-year-

old, partnered by Frankie Dettoni, faced a far more serious threat.

Arcadian Heights, who earlier this year nipped off half a finger from the hand of David Loder, assistant trainer to Geoff Wragg, does not like being beaten. And he resorts to violence to make his point.

The equine equivalent of Jaws lunged at Michael Roberts on Luchiroverre at Doncaster in March and managed to grab hold of the jockey's weight-cloth for a couple of strides. Yesterday, as the runners bunched up approaching the straight, Arcadian Heights attempted, without success, to nip the quarters of Drum Taps

— or Dettoni — as the partnership moved out to challenge.

The incident landed Wragg before the stewards, the trainer having to give an undertaking that Arcadian Heights, the two-length runner-up to Drum Taps, would wear a net muzzle in future races.

Lord Huntingdon, who has a strike rate second only to Henry Cecil, has enjoyed a wonderful meeting following his Royal Hunt Cup triumph with Colour Sergeant. Racing's most public stage has given him the chance to show off his undoubted talents to the full.

Drum Taps will now be prepared for an autumn campaign culminating in another attempt at the Japan Cup, invitingly permitting:

"We felt he has got such a relaxed attitude to racing and training that he had a fair chance of staying the trip and that this was his best chance of winning a group one in England," Lord Huntingdon said.

Dettoni commented: "When we came round the turn I heard Walter Swinburn [rider of Arcadian Heights] shout and scream. Later he told me his horse was just inches away from nibbling me."

Armarama lost her maiden tag in style by making all the running to land the Ribblesdale Stakes for Clive Britain and Michael Roberts. The key to her success has been hours spent swimming rather than cantering and Britain pinpointed the Irish Oaks as her next target.

Source Of Light was beaten 20 lengths by Peto at Wolverhampton on his last run but made nonsense of that form when accelerating past Wild Fire to win the King George V Stakes for Roger Charlton.

"Wolverhampton had had a lot of rain and Source Of Light loves firm ground. He didn't operate on the soft," the trainer explained.

Niche continues Carnarvon run

BY MICHAEL SEELY

LORD Carnarvon's remarkable Royal Ascot continued yesterday when Lester Piggott drove Niche to a head defeat of Silver Wizard, the 5-4 favourite, in the Norfolk Stakes.

The chairman of Newbury racecourse had also seen his scarlet, blue and white colours carried to victory by Lyric Fantasy in the Queen Mary Stakes on Wednesday.

In his capacity as the Queen's racing manager, he had been responsible for Colour Sergeant, the winner of the Hunt Cup. And Drum Taps, the horse he had owned in partnership with Will Farish III and had sold to a Japanese golf course developer, had now won the Ascot Gold Cup.

Surprisingly, although Silver Wizard had been many punters' banker of the meeting, Piggott, 17 times joint or outright leading Royal Ascot

rider, had been confident beforehand.

"When I said to Lester that we had a good chance of being placed, he replied 'don't you worry, we'll win it,'" Lord Carnarvon said.

Niche was Richard Hannon's fourth winner of the meeting, Shalford having initiated a third-day double with a stunning victory in the Cork and Orrery Stakes. Storming clear under Michael Roberts at halfway, he soon had his race won.

Shalford, who will be owned by David Cook until the end of his racing career, has been sold to stand at Coolmore. More immediately, the July Cup is his objective.

Punters were on good terms with themselves throughout the day and backers ended on a winning note when Richard Hills partnered the 2-1 favourite, Humam, to victory in the Chesham Stakes.

ATHLETICS

Backley learning how to cope as the pressure increases

BY DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

STEVE Backley is good at coping with setbacks. Last August he suffered his first humiliation as the world's leading javelin thrower when he failed to qualify for the world championship final.

It was a fall from a considerable height for the International Amateur Athletic Federation's male world athlete of the year — yet he came back to set a Commonwealth record and a world record in the next four months.

Tonight at the TSB Challenge in Edinburgh, Backley begins a sequence of competitions designed to bring him to a peak in Barcelona. "I am pleased with the way everything is going," he said, adding that he had been throwing as far as ever in training.

More important, after shoulder, leg and Achilles injuries in the past year, he is throwing pain free. A torn leg adductor was at the root of his Tokyo failure but that, he believes, should not have prevented him from reaching the final. Trying not to worsen his injury, he set himself the target of a distance which he thought

would be enough to qualify, but he underestimated what would be needed.

"It was a hard way to learn, but I am 23 and I have maybe three Olympics and six world championships left, so I can still do a lot of damage," he said. Now that rough-tail javelins have been banned, Backley feels more settled. "There was an element of luck with the rough javelin," Backley said. He, Jan Zelezny and Seppo Ratty all set world records with the rough model.

Ratty's world record of 96.96 metres was expunged and only smooth javelins permitted for setting records.

Backley did not feel comfortable having the record returned to him because of a rule change, but the "new" record of 89.58 metres, which Backley set 18 months earlier, was short-lived. His 91.46 metres in Auckland in January made him feel the genuine article.

Does that make him the world's best javelin thrower? Not by his reckoning. "To me the best guy is the one who goes out under pressure in the major championships and wins," Backley said. "There is far more credibility to being world or Olympic champion than being a world record holder."

□ The IAAF yesterday banned Yugoslav athletes from all international competition in keeping with the UN resolutions. Yugoslavia, now consisting of Serbia and Montenegro, was originally barred from international team competition, and the IAAF extends that to individual competitors.



Backley: free of injury

YACHTING

Peyron in first by a full day

FROM BARRY PICKTHALL
IN NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

LOIC Peyron, the 32-year-old French yachtsman swept into Newport, Rhode Island, early yesterday, a day ahead of his nearest rivals, to win the Europe 1 singlehanded transatlantic race.

His 60ft Nigel Irens-designed trimaran, Fujicolor, crossed the Breton Tower finish line at 12:35 GMT to post a time of 11 days 1 hour 35 minutes and set an average speed of 10.7 knots for the 3,000-mile crossing. This was the first big solo victory for the Peyron, whose previous best performance had been second place in the 1989-90 Globe Challenge non-stop round-the-world race.

Facing the French press on the docks, Peyron suggested that it was his experience in that race that gave him the winning edge this time. "Four days ago we ran into the area for icebergs. I've been in the ice before and am not worried by it. The conditions were perfect and I pressed the boat hard, probably harder than everyone else."

It resulted in a record run of 351 miles and during those 24 hours the British-designed trimaran averaged 14.6 knots, opening up a 200-mile lead over her nearest rivals, Paul Vatine, aboard Haute Normandie, and Francis Joyon, sailing another British-designed trimaran, Banque Populaire.

Peyron spent three quarters of the race on deck, catnapping for short periods in the small cuddy that provide his only shelter on deck. This preoccupation for driving the boat night and day almost cost him the race last Saturday.

"The boat developed a leak around the centreboard. The first I knew of the problem was when the boat began to feel sluggish, pounding heavily into the waves. I went below and found more than two tons of water in the main hull," he said. The electric bilge pump failed to work, forcing him to bucket the water out by hand. RESULT: 1. Fujicolor, L. Peyron, 11 days 1 hr 35 min. Other positions yesterday (with miles in Newport) Fujicolor, L. Peyron, 11 days 1 hr 35 min; 2. Banque Populaire (F. Joyon), 11 days 4 hr 40 min; 3. Haute Normandie (P. Vatine), 11 days 10 hr 10 min; 4. Banque Populaire (F. Joyon), 11 days 11 hr 30 min; 5. Queen Anne's Bounty (R. Smead), 11 days 12 hr 30 min; 6. Banque Populaire (F. Joyon), 11 days 13 hr 30 min; 7. Banque Populaire (F. Joyon), 11 days 14 hr 30 min; 8. Banque Populaire (F. Joyon), 11 days 15 hr 30 min; 9. Banque Populaire (F. Joyon), 11 days 16 hr 30 min; 10. Banque Populaire (F. Joyon), 11 days 17 hr 30 min.

INTERNATIONAL APPOINTMENTS



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Garth's latest century is rather special

Warwickshire are first battered and then bemused

By Jack Bailey

COVENTRY (final day of three): Middlesex (21pts) beat Warwickshire (7) by 226 runs

WARWICKSHIRE will look back to Thursday, June 18 as one of their worst days in the 1992 season. They will think of two names that have been around a long time — Mike Gatting and John Embury — and one whose career lays largely ahead — Charles Taylor, and they will still wonder how, facing a fourth-innings task of scoring 353 to win on a still good pitch, they collapsed so utterly as to fail to get halfway there, losing their last seven wickets for 24 runs, the last six of these in only 19 balls.

Perhaps it was Gatting who destroyed their spirit. Certainly, he put it severely to the test with his second century of the match, the first time he has achieved such a feat. Carrying on from his overnight 72, he added a further 91 in just over an hour. Gatting scored these runs out of 122 put on with Ramprakash, and an awesome display of hitting it was.

More statistics cannot convey the extent to which he put Warwickshire to the sword.

	P	W	L	D	BT	PTS
Hampshire	9	8	1	0	16	96
Northants	10	7	1	1	19	78
Somerset	17	6	1	1	24	78
Yorkshire	14	8	1	1	24	78
Gloucestershire	11	7	1	1	24	78
Durham	10	7	1	1	24	78
Warwickshire	7	2	4	1	19	26
Leicestershire	9	1	2	6	22	76
Middlesex	13	7	2	0	23	74
Nottinghamshire	10	7	1	1	24	78
Essex	11	7	1	1	24	78
Gloucestershire	11	7	1	1	24	78
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Pakistan's bowlers seize control at Lord's

England slump after making a perfect start

BY ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

LORD'S (first day of five; England won toss): Pakistan, with all first-innings wickets in hand, are 224 runs behind England.

SHORTLY after lunch at Lord's yesterday, England were proceeding with a serenity which suggested the Pakistani bowling held none of the promised terrors. Shortly after tea, the illusion was shattered and this second Cornhill Test adopted a course which will not easily be reversed.

From 123 without loss, England plunged to an inadequate 255 all out. The legacy of a commanding opening stand between two players at the peak of their form was a chaotic collapse, initiated by Wasim Akram but executed with ruthless aggression by Waqar Younis.

This was the real Waqar, not the diffident shadow who represented him at Edgbaston a fortnight ago. In this mood, as many opponents of Surrey last season will testify, he is a match-winner, possibly incomparable in the modern game.

He began his third spell by dismissing Botham, Lewis and Lamb in consecutive overs, each one confounded by his ability to bowl full, fast inswingers. The spell brought Waqar four for 31 and his final analysis of five for 91 nourishes his dream of becoming the first Pakistani to take ten wickets in a Lord's Test.

It was bowling of the highest class to set before a near capacity crowd on a bright but breezy first day. England can take comfort from that. But Graham Gooch, who had

chosen to bat in the hope that a big total would allow his bowlers to exploit suspect bounce later in the game, will still be properly distraught that his copiously laid foundations crumbled so swiftly.

Gooch has such a prolific record at Lord's that he must believe he will make a century every time he walks to the middle here. Alec Stewart is on such a high that he must believe he will make a century wherever and whenever he bats. It looked that way, too, as an opening pairing born last winter, of anxious compromise reformed its suddenly mature status.

The light was poor early on, and conditions seemed made for bowling but the new ball was squandered. Pakistan held back. Waqar, who is more effective with an older ball, but when he was summoned for the 14th over, Gooch instantly dispatched him twice to the cover boundary.

A rare short ball, from Akram, was pulled for four with the satisfying pistol-crack of Gooch's bat and the advent of leg spin was treated with similar disdain. Mushtaq being square-cut imperiously to take Gooch past 50 with his tenth over.

Gooch resumed after lunch as if his regulation Lord's century was a mere formality. Waqar was pulled for two fours in an over and Akram punched through extra cover off the back foot. Then, as if distressed by an announcement of Essex's innings defeat in Leeds, he went back to a quicker one from Akram and was bowled via an inside edge.

Waqar responded, increasing his speed and looking desperately unlucky to have a leg-before appeal against Stewart rejected. But Hick struck him cleanly through the infield on both sides of the wicket and was looking encouragingly confident until trying to pull Waqar from outside off-stump and spooning a catch to mid-on.

Akram struck again in the ninth over of a persevering spell, slanting the ball across Smith's rigid defensive stroke and having him well caught, low down at third slip. Now, much depended on Stewart but in the last over of the session, with a fifth hundred in six Tests in sight, he drove at Mushtaq without getting to the pitch and was caught by Miandad at extra cover.

The afternoon had thus been taken by Pakistan as conclusively as had the morning by England. The destiny of the evening session was in doubt only for as long as it took Waqar to destroy what remained of England's middle order.

Botham and Lamb were bowled playing loosely and Lewis departed hopping, having been hit on the foot by the trademark Waqar yorker. When DeFreitas steered a now rampant Waqar to second slip, it was left to Mushtaq to mop up a tail which Russell had tried manfully to sustain.

Seven overs remained for England to claw back some lost ground. They had the chance, too, but Botham put down a hot catch at gully when Ramiz slashed at the wayward Malcolm, and the day ended with Pakistan in enviable control.

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GOLF CORRESPONDENT
IN MONTEREY

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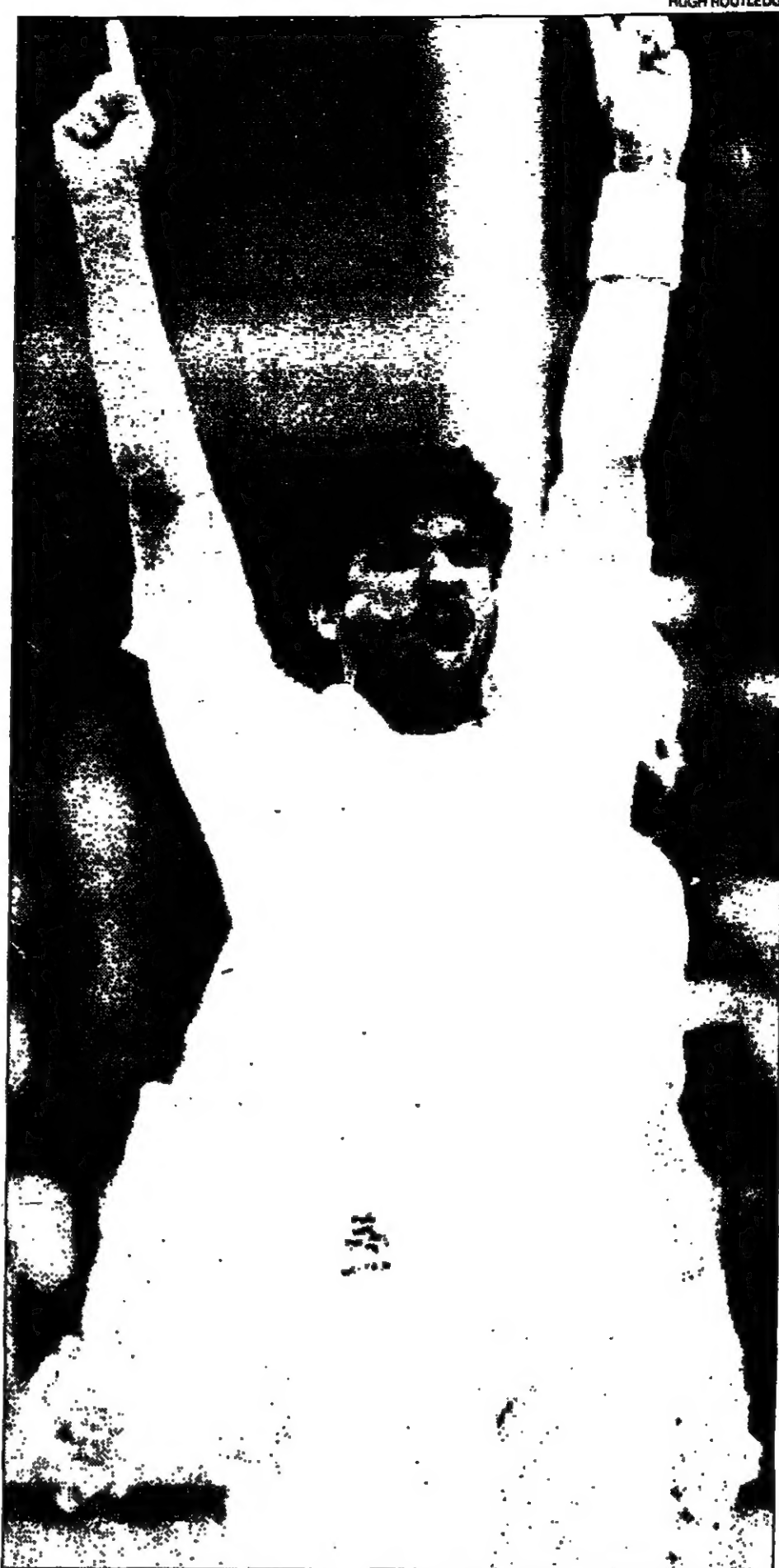
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★ 1X



Hitting the target: Waqar Younis shows delight after dismissing Botham

Waqar the modern master of yorkers

JOHN WOODCOCK

rule allowing only one bounce over will not survive next month's annual meeting of the ICC. West Indies, as you would expect, are strongly opposed to it. But it will not prevent the better side from winning the present series, any more than it prevented South Africa from beating India in Australia last winter, or England from winning their Test series in New Zealand, or Pakistan fighting back as they did yesterday.

Glad enough to be asked to field, on an overcast though not humid morning, Pakistan made a strangely muted start, and it had nothing to do with this bouncer rule.

They broke through when they did by pitching the ball up, bowling no more than half a dozen short ones all day. Wasim Akram began as though what had been sufficient, since he came

out of plaster, to bowl out Nottinghamshire and Northamptonshire would do now. Against Gooch and Stewart, both playing particularly well, it was nothing like enough.

Wasim never quite got into his stride. But how Waqar did! He, too, began tentatively, as though putting his injured back to the test. His first spell cost 25 runs and brought no alarms. Starting the sixth over of his second spell, and 90 minutes later, he had taken enough for 49. The game needs great fast bowlers, as it needs great batsmen, wherever they come from, and I was worried lest it had lost one.

Then, suddenly, it all came right. First Waqar beat Hick for speed, and then he produced such a succession of yorkers that no one's toes were safe. I was reminded of Frank Tyson in Australia in 1954-55, when he tormented Australia's batsmen with yorkers. It was no disgrace to be bowled out by Tyson then, nor by Waqar now.

Taylor learns nothing from his indecision

FROM DAVID MILLER
IN STOCKHOLM

GRAHAM Taylor's reflections on defeat took us back to Alf Ramsey and the World Cup of 1970: England have nothing to learn from Brazil. In football, as in life, the more things change, the more they remain the same.

Would it not be better, Taylor thought out loud, for England to be more true to themselves and play the English way? Ramsey was, in effect, saying the same when he asserted that there was no point in trying to copy Brazil. The fun of the game, as well as the achievements, come from being different, being Latin or Slavic or Anglo-Saxon, or Nordic.

What is worrying about Taylor's question, and therefore about his continuation in charge of England's preparations for the next World Cup, is less a matter of whether he may be right, but that he is asking it. He should have decided upon the answer at the time he started the job.

It is too much to suggest that the Football Association should have asked him his intentions when interviewing him, because it is less likely to have the answer than he. It is like appointing an artistic director to a ballet company: the trustees cannot be exactly sure what they are going to find being created on stage until it happens.

The most fundamental responsibility of any national coach — who, ironically, has no opportunity for coaching — is that he should remove the doubts, at least for the players. Ramsey was like Mrs Thatcher: he always knew, right or wrong, which way he was going. Taylor, in the manner of Don Revie and often Bobby Robson, has given the impression of changing his mind every match, which in a championship means every 48 hours. How can the players hope to respond?

Every manager who embarks upon this almost impossible task means well, none more so than the agreeable former manager of Lincoln City, Watford and Aston Villa.

Unless a national manager wins, and continues winning, he will be regarded, given the nationalistic emotions of those who follow his every move, as unsuccessful. This will now be true of Michel Platini, never mind that his France side won every qualifying match; and it is true of Taylor, even though under his direction England have lost only two matches in 24.

Taylor, in my opinion, has



Semi-finals
Sunday: Sweden v Group two runners up (Stockholm, 7.15)
Monday: Group two winners v Denmark (Gothenburg, 7.15)

been continually confused, as were Revie, Ron Greenwood at times, and Robson, confused on the priorities. These are choosing a tactical system-formation, and then selecting the players to fit it, thereafter changing as little as possible.

Taylor, like his predecessors, has oscillated endlessly: two wingers, one winger, none; three up front, sometimes two, occasionally Linaker on his own, and never the same twice running; flat back four or two markers with a sweeper, and anything from five in midfield to, here against Sweden on Wednesday night, only two, Webb and Palmer.

It seemed quite unfair, and unrealistic, to heap the blame on Linaker for the team not being able to hold the ball when it was being hastily cleared by a desperate defence in the second half; the problem, surely, was primarily that the midfield was being swamped, having two wingers and a primarily creative central figure such as Webb.

If the England manager is fortunate enough to have one of Europe's greatest goalscorers, it must be sense when shaping his team to allow for the strengths and weaknesses of such an exceptional forward. Linaker was within a foot or two of increasing England's lead against Sweden on the half-hour, and every statistic suggests England had more chance of scoring with him on the field than with Smith.

It was an inexplicable decision, for many observers, to leave out Steven, one of the steadiest performers in midfield against France. That is now no more than history.

The concern for the next two years is that Taylor — whose remaining two years of contract are unlikely to be terminated — uses the summer break to make positive decisions about how, and with which players, he wants England to perform, in place of the present random regime. Yesterday's newest whim was a need for larger players, nonsense when you think of, say, Alan Ball. I'm not optimistic for managerial improvement.

Linaker's regrets, page 31

Thompson makes his last fling abroad

DALEY Thompson, the world record holder and twice Olympic champion, will make one last effort to compete in his fifth Olympics by contesting a decathlon abroad before the British team for Barcelona is picked a week on Sunday (David Powell writes). He must obtain an Olympic qualifying score of 7,850 points to be selected.

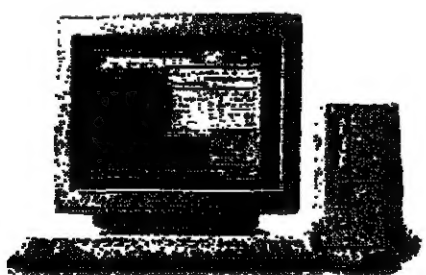
A month ago, Thompson, aged 33, dislocated his left collarbone, damaging ligaments and tendons in a training fall over a hurdle. Thompson, who was unbeaten between 1978 and 1987, has not completed a

decathlon since the Seoul Olympic Games four years ago, when he was fourth. "By Barcelona I could be in with a chance of a silver medal," Thompson said last month. He thought Dan O'Brien, of the United States, would be too good for him.

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Early starters profit from helpful conditions

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